Hafa Adai!

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OPINION METER
This week's poll:

Between Saipan and Tinian, which island should the U.S. Air Force choose for its alternate airfield in the event that Guam's Andersen Air Force Base is unavailable?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

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Shooting suspect James Holmes shows up in court for the first time.
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Syria threatens to unleash its chemical and biological weapons.
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Mariah Carey will join "American Idol" as a judge next season.
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Govt back to 72 hours biweekly

»Inos: 8-hour austerity during payday Fridays

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Acting governor Eloy S. Inos said yesterday that government work hours will go back to 72 hours biweekly—up from the current 64 hours—during the pay period beginning July 29 up to Sept. 30, before being restored to the full 80 hours starting Oct. 1.

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Inos

Tottotville suit ends with award of $4.99M

After six long years, the Tottotville litigation came to a welcome end when Superior Court Associate Judge Perry Inos issued a binding and unappealable judgment awarding the Northern Marianas Housing Corp. $694,850.73 and the Cas-

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Boston law firm slashes bill

»Now demanding $488,882 instead of $750,937

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Boston-based counsel for the NMI Retirement Fund is now asking to be paid $488,882 instead of the $750,937.82 it earlier demanded as payment for professional services and expenses.

Jeremy B. Coffey of the Brown Rudnick LLP law firm asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI Bankruptcy Division yesterday to order the Fund to pay the amount within five days of its ruling. He also asked the court to overrule all objections to the amount.

Coffey said this was an extraordinarily difficult and complex case and that the Fund's board of trustees exercised its business judgment to seek Chap-

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OIA no position yet on extension

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The Interior's Office of Insular Affairs that has jurisdiction over U.S. territories has no official position yet whether to support or not the extension of the federal immigration transition period beyond 2014, although Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Tony Babauta said yesterday it is "not unreasonable" for the CNMI to request for such an extension if it deems this necessary.

"We haven't come to a conclusion. …There's no public position yet. We're working

See OIA on Page 4

AIMING FOR 100 PERCENT
U.S. Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Tony Babauta, right, tests a fire hydrant as acting governor Eloy S. Inos looks on during the ribbon cutting for a Papago waterline improvement project yesterday afternoon. The U.S. Office of Insular Affairs-funded project brings to 95 percent the 24-hour water coverage in the CNMI from only 26 percent in 2006, and the CNMI's goal is to bring it to 100 percent by the end of this year. ***See story on Page 2***

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

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Healthcare corporation appeals for more federal aid. PAGE 5

Local

OIA-funded project brings 24-hour water coverage to 95 pct.

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

U.S. Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Tony Babauta and acting governor Eloy S. Inos led yesterday's ribbon-cutting for a $478,000 Papago waterline improvement project, bringing to 95 percent the 24-hour water coverage for Commonwealth Utilities Corp. customers.

Babauta said the 95 percent 24-hour water coverage is a jump from 26 percent in 2006.

Inos, in his remarks at the brief afternoon ceremony, said the CNMI has "definitely come a long way."

He said the project installed 6,900 lineal feet of 8-inch PVC distribution lines, 500 lineal feet of 6-inch PVC distribution lines, and connected 39 service laterals.

"The Papago distribution line is connected to the Capital Hill Reservoir distribution line, which eliminates low water pressure for customers in high elevations, in addition to providing 24 hours, seven days a week water service to 3,385 customers," Inos said.

CUC acting executive director Alan Fletcher said the goal is to bring the uninterrupted water coverage to 100 percent by November this year.

Babauta lauded the CNMI government, the Water Task Force, CUC, contractors and all others who have worked collaboratively with the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs for years to improve water services in the CNMI.

Pete Sasamoto of the CNMI Water Task Force said the project contractor is AIC Marianas, and the contract is for a little over $478,000. He said the Papago waterline improvement project is fully funded by OIA.

OIA has so far invested some $34 million to help improve the CNMI's water systems.

Inos said the CNMI will continue to execute projects such as the Papago waterline improvement to provide continuous water service to all customers.

"Governor Fitial and I would like to thank the Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs for supporting this project. I look forward to the next project of the Water Task Force in bringing our entire Commonwealth community closer to having consistent water service," Inos added.

Las Vegas winners receive cash awards

MONETH G. DEPOSA

Winners of the recently concluded Las Vegas Night fundraiser were presented yesterday their cash awards during the Saipan Rotary Club meeting at Hyatt Regency Saipan. From left are club secretary Richard Cody, grand prize winner Arnel Capati, Rotary Club president Pete Shilling, winners Romana Immeti, Reynaldo Pulido, Mike Cruz, Leonora Bengco, and club vice president Laila Boyer.

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Winners of the recently concluded Las Vegas Night received their cash awards from the Saipan Rotary Club yesterday during its weekly meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Grand prize winner Arnel Capati was presented a check for $8,000 after he chose the cash award over a brand new 2012 Hyundai Accent GLS. The amount showed a 20-percent tax cut on the cash prize he won at the July 14 fundraiser.

Capati, 46, an employee of CMI Construction in Gualo Rai, told *Saipan Tribune* that he bought a booklet of tickets worth $20 from a friend as a show of support for the projects of the Rotary Club. His win, he said, was unexpected but he is very grateful as the money will help his family. Capati, for now, will save the money. Capati has been working in the CNMI for 10 years and this was his first time to win anything in a raffle draw.

Also grateful is Reynaldo Pulido, who won $2,000 cash from the fundraiser. Like the grand prize winner, Pulido said he bought only a booklet of ticket and didn't expect to win. The 39-year-old farmer of Younis Arts Studio said the cash prize will be a big help to his family.

Businessman Mike Cruz, the winner of $1,000 cash, bought five booklets of tickets worth $100. A former member of the Rotary Club, he said he fully support the projects of the organization every year.

The other winners who were presented their cash awards were Romana Immeti, $3,000, and Leonora Bengco, $500.

Las Vegas Night is the club's major fundraiser every year and raises funds for the organization's various community projects. The event, held at Saipan World Resort, was graced by over a thousand players and spectators and generated gross proceeds of $44,000.

Plea deal offered to two in sale of alcohol to minor 'too lenient'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has rejected as too lenient a proposed plea deal that the government offered to two persons accused of selling alcoholic beverages to a minor.

In separate orders issued last week, Camacho found that the proposed plea agreement entered by Hey Jeun Sim and Li Bo Chen provides insufficient penalty to discourage them from doing it again.

The Office of the Attorney General had charged Sim and Chen with selling alcohol to a minor and selling alcohol to a person without an I.D. The two agreed to plead guilty to the first charge as part of a plea agreement.

Under the deal, Sim and Chen would be sentenced to three days in jail, all suspended. They will then be subject to six months probation, a $100 fine, payment of all court costs and probation fees, 10 hours of community service, and a letter to the court explaining how selling alcohol to minors is harmful.

Assistant attorney general Darren Robinson said the defendants have no previous criminal history.

Robinson also disclosed that although the defendants sold alcohol to a person under the age of 21, that person appeared much older and had a beard.

But according to Camacho, the proposed sentence of three days, all suspended, has virtually no deterrence value because the defendants will serve no jail time.

"The Legislature contemplated a maximum of three months imprisonment for each violation, evincing the seriousness with which the CNMI community takes selling alcohol to minors," Camacho noted.

The judge also described the proposed fine as "paltry" and that it irritates him because it enables businesses to simply pay their way out.

"This is not an effective deterrent. Indeed, a penalty roughly equal to the price of a few cases of beer would be encouraging the illegal activity because the penalty can be recuperated quickly," he said.

Many law-abiding businesses, the judge said, are consequently at an economic disadvantage because of the difficulty competing against businesses illegally selling alcohol to minors.

"Thus, the court is concerned that all businesses operate on a level playing field," he said.

Writing a letter, Camacho said, is hardly rehabilitative. "It is akin to an apology letter ordered by the court, both of which carry little weight with this court," he said.

There were about 20 or so cases filed resulting from the government's undercover operations in the past few months against stores selling alcoholic beverages to minors. Except for Camacho, other judges accepted the same plea agreement offered to other defendants.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS ISLANDS
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
P.O. BOX 501370, SAIPAN, MP 96950

Head Start Policy Council
Special Meeting Agenda

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Head Start Policy Council hereby gives notice that it will have a special meeting on Friday, July 27, 2012 at 2:00 p.m., at the Head Start Main Office Capitol Hill-House #1256, Pohnpei Way, Saipan.

I. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Quorum
4. Adoption of Agenda

II. Public Comments
III. Old Business
IV. New Business
1. Action Item:
   a. Review and Approval of Supplemental Grant Application

V. Executive Session
VI. Adjournment

Note:
Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)7, the Council may vote to meet in Executive Session. Public Comments are limited to 15 minutes, therefore comments are limited to 3 minutes each.

This meeting is open to the public, interested individuals are welcome to attend. Any person(s) requiring special accommodations may contact Ms. Annie Santos at (670) 664-3751/3761 or email her at ana.santos@cnmipss.org.

/s/ Vinson F. Sablan
Chairperson

Possible lapsed appointments at DPL, DPW, DPS under review

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Acting governor Eloy S. Inos is now reviewing the April appointments of acting secretaries for the departments of Public Lands and Public Works, as well as the March appointment of an acting commissioner of Public Safety, over concerns that these department heads' temporary appointments may have already exceeded 90 days and the decisions they have been making since then could no longer be legal and binding.

"I'm trying to get the facts. When were they appointed? Have they continuously been serving in that capacity? In other words, was there any break in their appointment?" Inos told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday when asked about a possible lapse of the 90-day appointments for the three officials.

Inos said the likely lapse of the 90-day appointments was just recently brought to his attention.

Any appointment whether in acting or permanent capacity lapses 90 days from the date of the appointment.

"I'm looking into the appointments. But at the minimum, I want to make sure the actions of those designated officials are official and valid, or legal and binding," Inos said in an interview.

As of late yesterday afternoon, Inos said there's no telling whether the 90-day appointments of the DPS, DPL, and DPW chiefs in either acting or permanent capacity had already lapsed.

Based on an independent review of documents from and interviews with Fitial administration officials back in March and April, the 90-day appointments for these three officials already lapsed weeks ago.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial named DPS deputy commissioner Ambrosio Ogumoro as acting commissioner for both DPS and Department of Corrections on or around March 26 when the governor placed then DPS commissioner Ray Mafnas on administrative leave over complaints against his conduct and leadership, among other things.

Fitial reinstated Mafnas as DOC commissioner but not as DPS commissioner, which has since been held by Ogumoro in an acting capacity.

The governor also appointed DPL deputy secretary Pedro I. Itibus as acting DPL secretary on April 2.

Fitial appointed the special assistant for operations at DPW, Vicente B. Castro, as acting DPW secretary also around the time.

The governor appointed Itibus and Castro after he removed former DPL secretary Oscar M. Babauta and former DPW secretary Martin Sablan from their posts for political reasons.

Babauta and Sablan, along with Inos, didn't follow the governor to the Republican Party when Fitial left the Covenant Party.

Inos, Babauta, and Sablan stayed with the Covenant Party. Inos is now the titular head of the Covenant Party, which Fitial formed more than a decade ago to support his gubernatorial bid. Babauta is the Covenant Party's 2012 campaign manager, while Sablan is running for a House seat in the Nov. 6 midterm elections.

The governor has not named replacements for the three department heads serving in acting capacities, nor appointed them as permanent department heads needing the advice and consent of the Senate.

Fitial is on a three-week official business trip to the United States. He is expected to be back later this week or during the weekend.

As of late yesterday afternoon, there's no telling whether Inos would make new appointments for the three departments, on either acting or permanent capacity.

Any appointment for the heads of DPS, DPL, and DPW in a permanent capacity will need the advice and consent of the Senate.

CNMI gets $2.25M in Compact impact funding

»OIA gives extra for PSS in FY 2012

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

U.S. Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Tony Babauta approved a $2.25-million funding associated with the CNMI's hosting of migrants from the Freely Associated States—also called Compact impact funding—for fiscal year 2012. This amount is higher than the CNMI's submission of $1.930 million in June.

Babauta and acting governor Eloy S. Inos said the additional $320,999 is for a one-time funding solely for the Public School System pursuant to U.S. Public Law 108-188 through the Technical Assistance Program.

Babauta, in an interview yesterday, said the Compact Impact funding for the CNMI could still be around $1.93 million in fiscal year 2013 without the extra funding for PSS.

Acting press secretary Teresa Kim said the additional funding for PSS is welcome and timely as the new school year draws near.

Babauta and Inos signed the documents on Monday.

The CNMI submitted on June 7 its fiscal year 2012's Compact Impact Funding Plan of Use to OIA, requesting for $1,930,443.00. This is almost the same level as it was in fiscal years 2011 and 2010 because of huge drop in the population of Freely Associated States citizens.

FAS citizens are those from the Federated States of Micronesia's Pohnpei, Chuuk, Yap and Kosrae, Palau, and the Marshall Islands.

The CNMI used to receive $5.2 million in annual Compact impact funding from OIA when the FAS citizen population was still huge. From 3,570 FAS citizens in 2003, the CNMI hosted 2,100 in 2008 based on a survey.

On Monday, Babauta met with Inos to notify the CNMI of OIA's approval of the request and to present the grant and cooperative agreement.

"On behalf of the Commonwealth, I would like to thank Mr. Babauta for personally presenting the grant award to my office. We are grateful for the continued support of the Department of Interior's Office of Insular Affairs," Inos said in a statement.

The total amount of $2,251,442 from OIA is allocated to eight agencies and programs in fiscal year 2012. These include $796,531 for the Department of Public Safety; $376,929 for the Public School System; $375,897 for Northern Marianas College; $326,523 for the Department of Corrections; $236,697 for the government hospital; $72,645 for the Office of Public Defender; $40,115 for the Division of Youth Services; and $26,105 for the Division of Mental Health.

Every year, the CNMI Department of Commerce, in collaboration with the Office of Management and Budget, submits a grant request to OIA to meet the needs of the CNMI in providing services to qualified non-immigrants.

A December 2011 report released by the U.S. Government Accountability Office cited "weaknesses" in territories' collection and reporting on the impact of migration from FAS.

GAO found that the CNMI, Guam, and Hawaii counted $1 billion in costs from FAS immigrants for education, health, public safety, and social services from 2004 to 2010, yet the U.S. government provided only $210 million to these U.S. insular areas as compensation.

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IRS: *Variety* owner, construction firm fail to pay $378,728 in taxes

Younis Art Studio Inc., which owns the *Marianas Variety*, and Sablan Construction Co. Ltd. failed to pay a total of $378,727.43 in employer's quarterly federal tax return, according to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

IRS, through revenue officers Marla Johnson and Debra Nostdahl, filed yesterday in the U.S. District Court for the NMI separate notices of federal tax lien against Younis Art Studio and Sablan Construction Co. Ltd.

According to the notices, Younis Art Studio's total unpaid tax amounts to $289,397.41, while Sablan Construction Co. Ltd. owes $89,330.02.

Robert T. Torres, counsel for Younis Art Studio, said the company is aware of the notice of tax lien, which he described as a "predictable and often-taken" move by revenue offices to assert its priority over other competing creditors.

"As a closely held local company in media and publishing since 1972, Younis Art Studio intends to meet this challenge and remove this lien upon fulfillment of tax obligations," Torres said.

According to court documents, Younis Art Studio allegedly failed to pay its employer's quarterly federal tax return in the tax period from 2009 to 2011.

In December 2011, the CNMI Department of Finance notified the federal court that Younis Art Studio had already satisfied its $328,412.63 in tax obligations to the CNMI government.

Saipan Tribune tried but failed to get comments from Sablan Construction Co. Ltd.

Sablan Construction Co. Ltd. allegedly failed to pay its employer's quarterly federal tax return from 2008 to March 2012.

The revenue officers stated in the notice that taxes (including interest and penalties) have been assessed against Younis Art Studio and Sablan Construction Co.

The revenue officers said they have made a demand for payment of this liability but it remains unpaid.

"Therefore, there is a lien in favor of the United States on all property and rights to property belonging to [these taxpayers] for the amount of these taxes, and additional penalties, interest, and costs that may accrue," the officers said in the notice. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

WATERLINE PROJECT HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Acting governor Eloy S. Inos, second from left front row, and U.S. Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Tony Babauta, second from right, lead the cutting of the ribbon for the newly completed Papago waterline improvement project yesterday afternoon. The project, funded by the Office of Insular Affairs and contracted to AIC Marianas, eliminates low water pressure for customers in high elevations and provides 24-hour water service to 3,385 customers.

GOVT

From Page 1

Inos, who oversees government finances, said the remaining eight-hour austerity will be observed during "payday Fridays."

This means hundreds of government employees affected by the 16-hour cuts for some two years now will start seeing 72 hours in their paycheck in August.

They would also start reporting for work every other Friday, starting on Aug. 3. Currently, affected employees do not work every Friday.

Inos is expected to issue a memo on the 72 work hours biweekly today or the next few days.

Inos said the 16-hour austerity biweekly has helped the government cope with declining revenues.

"On behalf of Governor Fitial and myself, I want to extend our appreciation to the many folks who have worked with us during these challenging times, allowing us to operate within the 64 hours. Obviously, that has paid off in many ways and that payoff basically resulted in some savings in most of the departments, which now can be used to increase the working hours and then eventually slide into fiscal year 2013 for full 80 hours per pay period," Inos told Saipan Tribune in an interview yesterday afternoon.

He also said that the government has $900,000 to $1 million to cover the additional eight work hours biweekly for employees affected by the 16-hour cuts.

A government employee on Capital Hill said yesterday "everyone affected by the austerity will be happy to have at least eight of 16 hours restored."

"It will put more food on the table, make up for the 15-cent increase in gas prices again. It's been two years that we have work cuts," said the employee, who has been working in the government for 12 years.

Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee chair Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota) and House floor leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan) separately said that going back to 72 hours biweekly is "welcome news."

"I think people will be excited. And then we look forward to a full 80 hours come the new fiscal year. I would also like to congratulate the administration for diligently working towards restoring hours at the earliest possible time," Camacho said.

Fiscal year 2013 covers the period from Oct. 1, 2012, to Sept. 30, 2013.

Tamainao, for her part, said her committee is also working expeditiously on the fiscal year 2013 budget bill that restores full 80 hours starting on Oct. 1.

The Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee started its working session on the House-passed budget bill yesterday and will continue today.

"The Senate welcomed the budget bill from the House but the Senate will have some amendments. Hopefully the House will accept the amendments and if not, I hope we could all work together on passing a balanced and timely budget," Taimanao said in a phone interview.

Another female government employee on Capital Hill welcomed going back to 72 hours, because it means additional money for all affected households. She said she almost got used to the 16-hour cuts.

A male government employee also on Capital Hill said yesterday he might at least try going to a bar on his first paycheck reflecting 72 hours. But he said the 72-hour paycheck will mostly be for the family.

Government employees typically agree to speak with the media on the condition that they not be named.

On July 10, the governor's special adviser for management and budget Vicky Villagomez told senators that the administration was considering the restoration of at least eight of the 16 hours that were cut from most government employees' work hours biweekly. Inos' statement yesterday confirmed that a decision has already been made to go back to 72 hours.

BOSTON

From Page 1

ter 11 protection after considering all options, the pros and cons of a bankruptcy petition, and related risks and potential benefits.

He said that Brown Rudnick agreed to further cut its fees and expenses from the already-discounted amounts in its original billing in recognition of the situation in which the Fund finds itself and the fact that the Fund was not ultimately able to use Chapter 11 to address its financial problems.

Coffey pointed out that prior to the start of the bankruptcy case, their law firm assisted the Fund's Saipan-based counsel without charge for about six months. At Brown Rudnick's usual rates, that would have cost about $187,000.

"Brown Rudnick has not, and will not, seek compensation for such services," he said.

As a result of their negotiated flat rate of $475 per hour for all their attorneys performing services for the Fund, the Fund received a discount of about 20 percent, he said.

In addition, Coffey said, their law firm voluntarily wrote off 204.6 hours of time incurred between the petition date and the date of the application, valued at around $95,000.

Additional negotiations between Brown Rudnick and the Fund further cut the total bill to $488,822, Coffey said, which translates to a further discount of $277,115.66 or 36 percent from the already discounted amounts.

Ultimately, he said, the revised amount is a 49-percent discount from Brown Rudnick's normal rates for time actually billed, time written off, and time associated with a potential appeal of the dismissal of the case (for which the law firm is not seeking compensation).

This settlement, Coffey said, is a "give and take" on numerous points and reflects efforts to achieve a fair result and avoid any unnecessary litigation or further expenses.

"Brown Rudnick believes that it has carried its burden with respect to establishing that the fees incurred are reasonable, and it further believes that the objecting parties have failed to provide adequate evidence to carry their burden of proving how those fees are unreasonable," Coffey added.

The law firm's unrevised application claims that the Fund owes it $704,293.50 as compensation for professional services and $46,644 as reimbursement for expenses, for a total of $750,937.82 covering the period of April 17, 2012, when the Chapter 11 was filed, through June 13, 2012.

The CNMI government, the Commonwealth Ports Authority, and two members of the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors have raised objections to the amount, describing it as unreasonable.

The Office of the Attorney General had asked the court to reduce Brown Rudnick's compensation and reimbursement by 85 percent—to just $112,640.67—instead of $750,937.82.

TOTTOTVILLE

From Page 1

tro Group of 34 Homeowners $3.78 million in damages against defendants SSFM International, Inc., Telesource CNMI, INC. and Telebond Insurance Corp.

Inos also awarded the Flores Group of 10 Homeowners (who had earlier settled some of their claims) $513,704 in damages against SSFM.

Both the Castro and Flores Homeowners were also awarded attorney's fees and costs, to be determined later by the court.

In 2006, NMHC and the Castro and Flores homeowners brought claims against SSFM, Telesource and Telebond for breach of contract, breach of warranties, Consumer Protection Act violations, and violations of the CNMI Building Codes, among other things, arising out of the construction of the Tottotville homes.

In a statement issued yesterday by the plaintiffs' lawyers, it said the complainants are pleased with the judgment and order of Inos. "Plaintiffs are pleased that the court recognized the damages suffered by the homeowners and the housing agency," it said.

"The attorneys would like to express thanks for the perseverance of the Tottotville homeowners in pursuing justice in this matter. We hope that this judgment will result in timely compensation for all of the injured parties. Attorneys for the Castro homeowners, Edward Arriola, Matthew T Gregory and Bill Satterberg and counsel for the Flores homeowners, Vic and Jack Torres, and counsel for NMHC, Vicente T. Salas, F. Matthew Smith and Mark A Scoggins also expressed their appreciation to the court for helping the parties reach this final resolution of this matter," the statement adds. ***(PR)***

OIA

From Page 1

closely with both the local government and stakeholders within the CNMI, so that our federal government can have a complete understanding of the reasons that would constitute or justify an extension of the transition period," Babauta said in an interview at the ribbon cutting for a Papago waterline project yesterday afternoon.

Under the law that placed CNMI immigration under federal control, the alien worker population should be zeroed out after Dec. 31, 2014.

But the same law allows for a five-year extension, to be assessed and determined by the U.S. Labor secretary in consultation with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security secretary and the CNMI governor.

Babauta, at the same time, said the Interior fulfilled its mandate under U.S. Public Law 110-229 to make recommendations to Congress on the status of alien workers in the CNMI but Congress has not taken action on it two years since the May 2010 submission.

"There's nothing in the law that compelled Congress to act based on a report. There was something in the law that compelled the Department of the Interior to report to Congress and that's what we did," he said.

Babauta said at this point, there's nothing else that Interior could do on the status of foreign workers. He said everything now is in the hands of Congress.

Worker groups in the CNMI—including the United Workers Movement-NMI, Dekada Movement and Marianas Advocates for Humanitarian Affairs Ltd.—are opposed to extending the transition period beyond 2014 and are instead asking the U.S. government to grant improved immigration status to long-term legal alien workers in the CNMI.

But Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and the Saipan Chamber of Commerce support extending the transition period, saying the current resident population still could not fill the void if and when the foreign worker population is zeroed out after 2014. Fitial is also opposed to granting improved immigration status to these foreign workers.

Healthcare corporation appeals for more federal aid

» CEO, hospital administrator off-island to meet federal health execs

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Faced with dwindling local funding support, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. is turning its eye to federal agencies in a bid to ensure the survival of the Commonwealth Health Center.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. CEO Juan N. Babauta and hospital administrator Karen Buettner are in San Francisco this week to talk with the Federal Regional Council about a host of local health issues.

Named acting CEO is John Tagabuel, director of the Bureau of Environmental Health.

Based on their itinerary, Babauta is expected to discuss with federal officials six issues: the lack of an obstetrics and gynecologist at CHC, Medicaid issues, the hospital's electronic health record system, updates on the Kagman Community Health Center, and the hospital's revenue cycle management.

Just before leaving, Babauta disclosed to *Saipan Tribune* that a meeting had been requested with the National Health Services Corps to ask for the possible deployment of a obstetrics and gynecologist at CHC. Right now, the hospital has only one OB-gyne, Dr. Jennifer Linden, following the departure of Dr. Michael Deary early this year.

Babauta will also appeal to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services to approve the corporation's proposal to allow the hospital to use its $7 million line of credit with the Marianas Public Land Trust as a certified public expenditure, or CPE, so it could be used as the local match for the Medicaid program.

"The local government and CMS are in the process of applying the CPE expenses as the state match for Medicaid. [The corporation] wants to explore the possibility of the MPLT loan qualifying as a CPE match for Medicaid funding and we requested a meeting with CMS officials," Babauta said.

He will also be discussing with Medicare officials the general status of CHC's compliance with federal standards and certification. A meeting with CMS Hospital and Community Care Operations director Rufus Arther was also requested.

Because of the broken financial system of the public hospital, the corporation created a revenue cycle management to beef up its collection efforts. Babauta confirmed that in order to realize the expected outcome, it needs start-up funds to hire additional personnel for the new cycle.

"[The corporation] is currently struggling to meet its internal and external obligations such as payroll, housing benefits, medical supplies and other operating expenses. [It] has a broken financial system. This situation concerns Medicare and Medicaid. To fix this broken system, revitalization of the revenue cycle management system is vital. It is the [corporation's] intent to seek technical assistance from [the] departments of the Interior and Health Human Services in the form of a human resource with expertise to assist in setting up the new system," Babauta said.

Corporation board chair Joaquin Torres separately confirmed that due to funding constraints, the hiring of 23 additional personnel for the new cycle management has been affected. Corporation records show that the new system only has three billers and three coders.

4 other CNMI officials join Fitial in US

Four other government officials joined Gov. Benigno R. Fitial in the U.S. but unlike the governor who has an almost three-week taxpayer-paid trip, the others will only be staying there for a few days on official business.

Fitial left Saipan on July 10 for trips to Virginia, Washington, D.C. and California, among other states, and is expected to be back late this week or during the weekend. He left with first lady Josie Fitial and press secretary Angel Demapan.

His legal counsel, Jim Stump, followed in Washington, D.C. Stump has already ended his official travel and is not part of the CNMI delegation to California this week.

Acting press secretary Teresa Kim confirmed yesterday that three others—the governor's special adviser for management and budget Virginia Villagomez, special assistant for administration Esther Fleming, and Tom Linden, coordinator for the CNMI Military Integration Management Committee—left over the weekend.

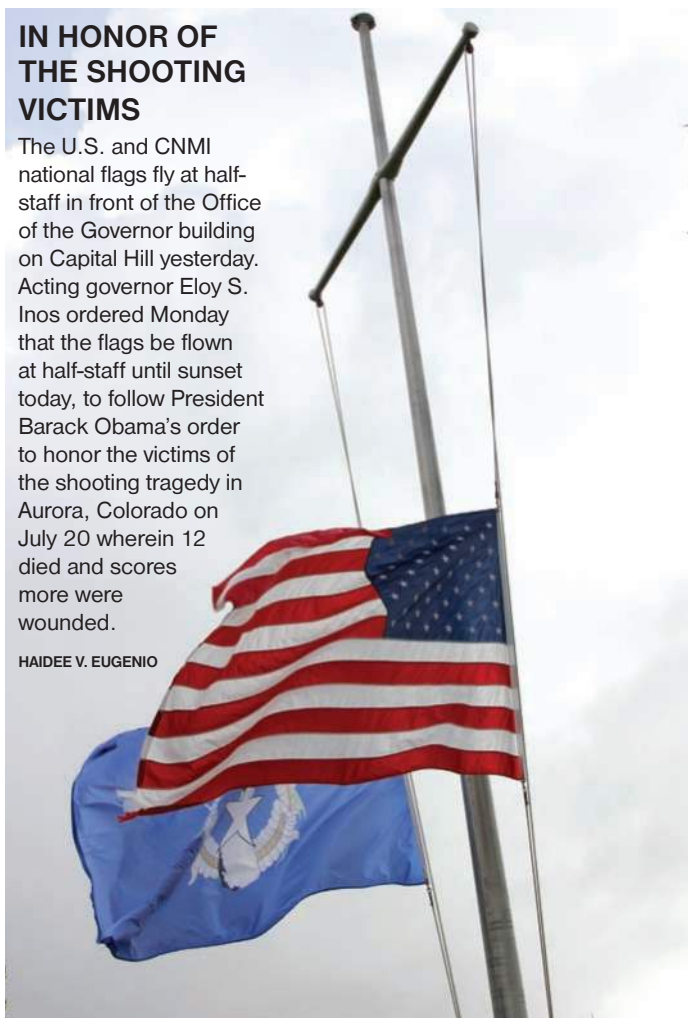
Kim said they were to attend the July 23 to 25 Federal Regional Council Meeting in San Francisco, California. They are expected to be back later this week.

Kim said Demapan has also terminated his official travel and is now on leave as he is participating in the first session of the Executive Leadership Development Program, funded by the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs, in Guam.

While in the U.S., Fitial participated in the July 12 to 15 National Governors Association's annual summer meeting in Williamsburg, Virginia.

Fitial also attended a July 17 to 20 symposium on climate change and its impacts on indigenous coastal cultures at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. He delivered remarks in that symposium. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

IN HONOR OF THE SHOOTING VICTIMS



The U.S. and CNMI national flags fly at half-staff in front of the Office of the Governor building on Capital Hill yesterday. Acting governor Eloy S. Inos ordered Monday that the flags be flown at half-staff until sunset today, to follow President Barack Obama's order to honor the victims of the shooting tragedy in Aurora, Colorado on July 20 wherein 12 died and scores more were wounded.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

AS GATES MILLENNIUM SCHOLAR:

Birmingham-Babauta vows to increase awareness about Pacific islanders

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gates Millennium Scholar Samantha Birmingham-Babauta vowed yesterday to do her best to become an effective ambassador for Pacific islanders not only by increasing local students' awareness of the great opportunities ahead of them but increasing national awareness about the region and its people as well.

Birmingham-Babauta had just returned from a conference about higher education in Washington, D.C. where she met other Gates Millennium scholars. Yesterday, she shared the insights and experiences she learned from the conference as guest speaker of the Saipan Rotary Club's weekly meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

As the voice of Pacific islanders at the June 19 conference organized by the Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund, Birmingham-Babauta said she learned that Pacific islanders are not remembered and remain "underrepresented" in many educational opportunities despite having very capable and talented people.

MONETH G. DEPOSA
Gates Millennium Scholar Samantha Birmingham-Babauta speaks before members of the Saipan Rotary Club yesterday. At left is Rotary vice president Laila Boyer.

She also came across some research studies about the Pacific islands, the most notable of which she said were the findings that fewer Chamorros among the younger generation are pursuing higher education compared to the older generation. She said she was able to provide some input on this subject at the conference.

She believes that this is probably because of a culture where families are prioritized over other things like education. She also cited the high cost of education, which motivates a greater number of students to enter the military or seek jobs after high school. The military, she said, is the fastest and easiest way to gain experience and at the same time provide for one's family.

At the conference, Birmingham-Babauta strongly advocated for Pacific islanders and encouraged public and private leaders to explore investing in the region. "We're limited because we're very far. But please don't forget about us, don't forget about the Pacific islanders," she said.

These, Birmingham-Babauta said, are among the many motives she has to increase awareness about the CNMI and the Pacific islands. As a Gates Millennium scholar, she vows to reach out to other students and give them information about this scholarship opportunity that provides a 10-year free education to deserving students, including books, transportation, and related expenses. Anyone interested may email her at samantha.aani@gmail.com.

Birmingham-Babauta was named GMS scholar in 2011. Since her return, she has spoken to many schools and groups, encouraging students to take advantage of this opportunity provided by the GMS Foundation.

"My passion now is to talk to people and tell them about the great things about GMS and make them excited about what they could have. I want to really make the community aware of the amazing resources they need to look into," she told Saipan Tribune yesterday.

Birmingham-Babauta was among the 23,000 applicants for a Gates Millennium Scholarships in 2011. She was the only one chosen in the CNMI that year. She just finished her freshman year at University of Guam and will be transferring to California State University at Northridge where she will pursue exercise science.

To be a GMS scholar doesn't call for a "perfect student," Birmingham-Babauta said. Rather, the program searches for potential leaders. The beauty about the scholarship, she added, is it is not strictly academic but based on the student's active involvement in the community and groups.

A sports enthusiast, Birmingham-Babauta has been active in numerous sports events and activities and held positions in several sports teams. She was also a member of the CNMI National Team and spent seven years in a soccer team. She dreams of opening her own gym.

Man allegedly beats up brother, hits ma in the face

A man allegedly beat up his brother and hit his mother in the face with a vacuum cleaner attachment when she tried to pacify them at their residence in Dandan on Monday.

Ralph O. Buenaventura, 23, was taken to the Superior Court yesterday for a bail hearing on charges of assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace. Bail was set at $6,250 cash. Preliminary hearing will be on Aug. 1 at 9am.

Police detective Catherine B. Pangelinan stated in her report that a patrol officer was dispatched Monday night to a residence in Dandan after the Department of Public Safety received a call about a domestic disturbance.

Pangelinan said that, according to the patrol officer, the mother came home from church around 7:30pm and saw her two sons fighting inside her room. The mother saw Buenaventura punching his brother in the face. When she tried to stop them, Buenaventura took a plastic vacuum cleaner extension and hit her face.

The brother then called the police.

Earlier that day, the two brothers also had an altercation that was witnessed by their sister. Buenaventura allegedly punched his brother in the face repeatedly. The sister ran to a neighbor's house for assistance, but nobody helped her.

The sister went back to their house to call the police. She heard an explosion from an air gun. As she walked inside the house, she saw Buenaventura holding a black air gun, but her other brother was not there.

She told police that it was not the first time that Buenaventura would assault and harass them. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

NMC's fall registration begins Aug. 13

Registration for the Northern Marianas College's fall 2012 semester will begin on Monday, Aug. 13, and run through Thursday, Aug. 16, 2012. Students can register on the day designated for their PowerCampus ID number during this week. Late registration is on Friday, Aug. 17, 2012.

Those who have not applied for admission to NMC for the fall 2012 semester must submit an admission application by Tuesday, July 31, 2012. Admission applications and other important forms are available at the NMC Admissions & Records Office, or can be downloaded from www.nmcnet.edu.

The college offers several degree and certificate programs, including a bachelor of science degree in education (emphasis on elementary education, early childhood education, special education, or rehabilitation and human services), associate degrees in business, business administration (emphasis on accounting, business management, or computer applications), liberal arts, nursing, natural resources management, criminal justice, and hospitality management. Moreover, it offers short-term certificate programs in different vocational, academic, and professional areas.

IMPORTANT DATES

- July 31: Deadline to submit admission applications for fall 2012
- Aug. 1: Student orientation for new and re-admitted students, 9am to 12:30pm (Room D-1)
- Aug. 8: Student orientation for new and re-admitted students, 9am to 12:30pm (Room D-1)
- Aug. 9: Student orientation for new and re-admitted students, 4:00pm to 7:30pm (Room D-1)
- Aug. 13: Registration for students with PowerCampus No. 000000100 through 000011900
- Aug. 14: Registration for students with PowerCampus No. 000011901 through 000015100
- Aug. 15: Registration for students with PowerCampus No. 000015101 through 000017660
- Aug. 16: Registration for all new, re-admitted and ongoing students
- Aug. 17: Late registration for new, re-admitted and ongoing students

ENGLISH PLACEMENT TEST SCHEDULE

- Aug. 7, 9, 14 & 16: 9am - 6pm, Building M
- Aug. 8, 10, 13, 15 &17: 9am - 4pm, Building M

MATH PLACEMENT TEST SCHEDULE

- Aug. 14: 10am - 12pm: Room A-9 5pm - 7pm, Room A-9
- Aug. 15: 10am - 12pm, Room A-9
- Aug. 16: 10am - 12pm, Room A-9 5pm - 7pm, Room A-9
- Aug. 17: 10am - 12pm, Room A-9

New students are also required to take the English and Math placement tests before they register. After taking the placement tests, students can meet with their academic advisors, who will assist students complete registration forms and create class schedules. Students may register between 9am and 6pm, Monday through Friday, during registration week.

Ongoing students must obtain registration clearance at the Finance Office, the NMC Library and/or Office of Admissions and Records before they can register for classes. To find out if any holds exist, students can visit the Office of Admissions and Records in Building N at the NMC As Terlaje campus or call 234-5498 Ext. 1528/1540.

For additional information about the placement tests and registration for the fall 2012 semester, visit the Office of Admissions and Records or call 234-5498 Ext. 1528/1540, or log on to www.nmcnet.edu. ***(NMC)***

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Board of Parole
P.O. Box 502641 Saipan, MP 96950-2641
Tel. Nos.: (670) 664-3300 - 3302 • Fax: (670) 664-3310
E-mail: govbop@pticom.com

PUBLIC NOTICE
Preliminary Hearing

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the CNMI Board of Parole, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992". Notice is hereby given that a **Preliminary Hearing** is scheduled for **August 1, 2012, (Wednesday) at 10:00 A.M.,** at the **CNMI Board of Parole Office, Capitol Hill Road, Building Number 1216**, Saipan.

The following individual(s) will appear before the Hearing Examiner:

A. Parolee
1. APPLEBY, Shawn C **Cr. Cs. No.: 96-319**
BOP No.: 12-003

If you have any question or information, please call the Parole Office at telephone numbers 664-3300 or 3302.

/s/ Rosa Ada Hocog Date: 07/19/2012
Hearing Examiner

Michael A. White, Esq. F0122
The Law Offices Of Michael A. White, LLC
Post Office Box 5222
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950
Tel: (670) 234-6547
Fax: (670) 234-9537

Attorneys for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANKPACIFIC, LTD., Plaintiff, -v- MARGARITA CASTRO CRUZ and ERNEST PATRICK RANGAMAR CRUZ, Defendants.] CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0111

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on June 27, 2012, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 005 I 254, situated in Koblerville, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 943 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 005 I 05 dated October 12, 1983, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 84-1364, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, August 10, 2012, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 9th day of July, 2012:

/s/MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP12-DPS-076

SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 28, 2012 • TIME: 3:00 P.M.

"AUTOMATED STATE IDENTIFICATION AND DRIVER'S LICENSE INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY"

THE COMPLETE CONTENTS OF THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL WILL BE AVAILABLE ON OR AFTHER **JULY 25, 2012** AND MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWER BASE DRIVE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A **PRE-PROPOSAL CONFRERENCE** WILL BE HELD ON **AUGUST 09, 2012 AT 10:00 A.M., LOCAL TIME** AT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, CONFERENCE ROOM, SUSUPE, SAIPAN.

PROSPECTIVE OFFERORS MAY SUBMIT QUESTIONS TO THE FOLLOWING E-MAIL ADDRESS: **jcdlguerrero@dps.gov.mp** ATTN: SERGEANT JAMES C. DELEON GUERRERO, PROJECT MANAGER, NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, **AUGUST 13, 2012.** RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS WILL BE SENT OUT NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, **AUGUST 15, 2012.**

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE ***IS NOT AVAILABLE*** BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/S/ AMBROSIO T. OGUMORO
ACTING COMMISSIONER, DPS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

STAY WELL® insurance

CNMI GOVT MEMBERS

You are receiving a rebate for 2011!

StayWell is the only health insurance company in the region that provides refunds to its qualified members each year. StayWell is additionally rebating a total of $291,586 to CNMI Government employees as a result of the Affordable Care Act's Medical Loss Ratio requirement.

2011 REBATE CHECK DISTRIBUTION SCHEDULE

WHO: CNMI Gov't employees who had StayWell Insurance in 2011 for at least one pay period

WHERE: StayWell Saipan Office, Lower Capitol Hill (entrance to FlameTree Apartments)

WHEN: **Thursday, July 26, 2012, 8am – 6pm**

CNMI Government employees who were insured with StayWell in 2011 at the:

- Public School System (PSS)
- Northern Marianas College (NMC)
- Northern Marianas Retirement Fund (NMRF)
- Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA)
- Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC)
- Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA)
- Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA)
- Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC)
- Micronesian Legal Services (MLS)
- Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC)

Friday, July 27th, 2012, 8am – 6pm

All other CNMI Government employees who were insured with StayWell in 2011.

Rebates will be prorated based upon how many pay periods a member was covered in 2011. The policy subscriber will be the only one allowed to pickup the check. All checks not picked up will be mailed on Monday, July 30, 2012.

For more information, please call StayWell Saipan at 323-4260/61/62

CNMI Judiciary says *adios* to law clerk Sanders

At a farewell luncheon on Tuesday, July 24, 2012, the justices and staff of the CNMI Judiciary bid their farewells to Charlotte S. Sanders who, for a year, has been a law clerk for Associate Justice John A. Manglona.

A certificate of appreciation was presented to Sanders by acting chief justice Alexandro C. Castro and Associate Justice John A. Manglona attesting to "her exemplary performance as a law clerk, thereby materially contributing to the maintenance of liberty under law through the fair and impartial administration of justice in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands."

Sanders graduated from the University of Washington School of Law in June 2011. In law school, she was the managing editor of production for the *Pacific Rim Law and Policy Journal*, a member of the Moot Court Honor Board, and a winner of the Judson A. Falkner Appellate Advocacy Competition. She obtained her bachelor's degree in Political Science at the University of Washington with honors, was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and was president of the University of Washington's Speech and Debate Society.

Speaking during the presentation ceremony, Castro and Manglona were most flattering of Sanders' contribution to the Judiciary. In addition to her diligent work on important cases, Sanders' energy and invaluable friendship were cited by her colleagues as something very special that will truly be missed.

Sanders intends to pursue civil litigation in the next stage of her legal career. ***(NMI Judiciary)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Associate Justice John A. Manglona, left, and acting chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro, center, present departing CNMI Judiciary law clerk Charlotte Sanders with a framed certificate of appreciation at her departure luncheon Tuesday, July 24, 2012. Inset, Sanders displays the Scales of Justice, a special departure gift, that was given her by Castro and Manglona.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Guam sailor dies in motorcycle accident

AGAT, Guam—A sailor attached to Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station Guam died in a motorcycle accident on Route 2 outside of Agat on July 23.

The accident is currently under investigation by the Guam Police Department. The identity of the sailor is being withheld until next of kin are notified. ***(JRM)***

Meeting for ribbon-cutting rites for Kiosku project

Organizers of the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Saipan Leadership Memorial Kiosku in Chalan Kanoa are inviting family members, relatives, and friends of the honorees to attend the meeting set for tomorrow, July 26, 2012, at the Multi-Purpose Center at 6pm.

Saipan Municipal Council chair Ramon B. Camacho is asking for the presence of family members, relatives, and friends of the honorees to discuss the activities for the ribbon-cutting ceremony. For more information, call the council office at 664-2700 or 664-2701. (PR)

MHS Class of '93 reunion meeting

Marianas High School Class of 1993 will be having a class reunion meeting on July 27, 2012, 6pm at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion. If you have any questions, you can contact Maryann Borja-Arriola at 483-2279 or email Vivian Sablan at vtsablan@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Joint Region Marianas to hold change of command rites

NIMITZ HILL, Guam—Rear Adm. Tilghman D. Payne will relieve Rear Adm. Paul J. Bushong during a change of command ceremony July 27. The ceremony is scheduled for 10am at Flag Circle in Nimitz Hill.

Payne will serve as commander, Joint Region Marianas; U.S. Defense Representative Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Palau; and commander, U.S. Naval Forces Marianas based in Guam. He is reporting to Guam after serving as commander, Navy Region Midwest, Great Lakes Ill.

Bushong, who has been nominated for promotion to vice admiral, will serve as U.S. security coordinator, Israel-Palestinian Authority. ***(PR)***

FEMA, NMI to host disaster recovery workshop

Federal Emergency Management Agency and CNMI government officials will be hosting a National Disaster Recovery Framework Rollout and Workshop tomorrow, July 26, 2012, at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center-E.O.C. on Capitol Hill, from 9am to 12pm.

The workshop will introduce how, as a nation, federal, state, territorial, and local governments and public and private organizations, together, can successfully recover following a disaster. It will outline coordination structures, leadership roles and responsibilities, and recovery planning guides at all levels of government before a disaster happens.

Workshop participants will include FEMA, CNMI government officials, local governments, private sector participants, non-profit and faith-based organizations. ***(FEMA)***

Survivors, caregivers support meeting tomorrow

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly support meeting tomorrow, July 26, 2012, at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan, starting at 5:30pm. This month's support meeting guest speaker will be Trina Sablan, Healthy Lifestyle Promotion Coordinator, NCD Bureau. Her presentation will feature detailed information on health promotion. To RSVP or for more information, call the CCA at 682-0050 or email ccamarianas@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

TES kindergarten enrollment

Kindergarten registration at Tanapag Elementary School has started and will run up to Aug. 3, from 7:30am to 4:30pm, at the main office of the school campus. There will be only 20 slots for kindergarten. It's a first-come, first-served basis. Requirements include a registration form, health clearance/ certificate, birth certificate, proof of guardianships, and map of residency. For more information contact the main office at 237-3162/4. (PR)

Air Force, Navy training on FDM, Warning Area 517

The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on July 23-27, from 8am to 12:59am. The Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on July 24-25, from 8am to 5pm.

The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. ***(PR)***

Cleanup, Paint, and Beautify Day at MHS

On Saturday, Aug. 4, 2012, the Marianas High School Parent Teacher Association will conduct a Cleanup, Paint, and Beautify Day at the MHS campus. The PTA invites all parents, students, teachers, and any other interested members of the community to meet at the MHS at 7:30am to help prepare the campus for the new school year. For more information, contact Bobbie Torres at 287-6463, Martin Dalsaso or John Davis at 237-3202/4. ***(PR)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

July 25, 2000

Bill seeking toxic compensation OK'd in House

To provide island residents the means to seek compensation for injuries and loss as a result of exposure to toxic substances, the House of Representatives has approved legislation establishing the legal framework if and when such situation occurs. If HB 12-177, otherwise known as the Toxic Substances Exposure Compensation Act, becomes a law, it will be a public policy of the CNMI to grant rights to the victims for compensation and other relief. Offered by House Natural Resources Committee chair Rep. Dino M. Jones, the measure is an offshoot to the planned lawsuit against federal agencies and manufacturers of the polychlorinated biphenyl, which has contaminated the coastal village of Tanapag over the last three decades.

DPS taps fed funds to acquire 6 motorcycles

The Department of Public Safety has tapped the U.S. Highway Safety Funds in acquiring six motorcycles for the traffic enforcement section, according to Maj. Clyde Norita, assistant chief of the Office for Special Services. With the increasing number of vehicles on the island, Mr. Norita said the department believes that the motorcycles can respond faster to emergencies than patrol cars. Each motorcycle cost $15,000 while the patrol cars equipped with light and sirens cost $25,000. DPS has sent Police Officer Eric Mafnas to the U.S. mainland for training on the use of motorcycles. He is now holding the 80-hour training for other traffic officers to become certified motorcycle operators.

July 25, 2001

Atalig tops list of senators with most number of bills

Three regular sessions and two special sessions later, Sen. Ricardo S. Atalig is proving to be the most prolific among the nine senators of the 12th CNMI Legislature. With 31 bills filed to date, Atalig tops the list among upper chamber lawmakers in the number of measures he has filed. He is followed by Sen. Pete P. Reyes, with 20. Sen. Edward U. Maratita comes in at third, with 16 measures. Based on the records obtained at the Senate, a total of 122 bills have been filed since the start of the 12th Legislature in January 2000.

$1M released to pay off-island referral billings

The Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund has decided to go ahead with its plan to loan $1 million to the Group Health and Life Insurance as seed money for a trust fund that would be used to pay for off-island medical referral billings. The Fund's Board of Trustees agreed to go ahead with the $1-million loan, subject to the approval of the Legislature, during Friday's board meeting at the conference room of the Tinian Casino and Gaming Control Commission on Tinian Island. Fund administrator Juan S. Torres said the money will be used to set up a trust fund in connection with the Fund's decision to hire the services of the Hawaii Pacific Medical Referrals Inc.

July 25, 2002

CUC-CDA settlement bills hit snag

The two bills that would lay the groundwork for the settlement of the $102-million loan of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. with the Commonwealth Development Authority have hit a minor snag. Apparently, indecisive language that puts a question whether CDA would actually waive all interests on the loan has made lawyers of the utility firm antsy, prompting them to write to the Senate that they do not agree with some provisions of the pending measures. House Bills 13-106 and 13-107, which fulfill the legislative requirement authorizing the settlement agreement between the CDA and the CUC, remains pending at the Senate.

DLNR: Fishkill worst in 7 years

The fishkill at the Smiling Cove Marina that followed the onslaught of Typhoon Chata'an left at least 26 kinds of marine life dead the worst in the last seven years. This was the findings of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources, as it blamed non-point source runoff as the possible cause of the fishkill. "This type of event has occurred nearly consistently following every major storm event that passed Saipan in the last seven years. Observations indicate that this recent event has produced the most significant fish and invertebrate kill in terms of diversity, and possibly in terms of numbers also, although neither diversity nor numbers of fish killed from such events has been rigorously documented over the years," the DLNR said.

Island Snapshots

OLYMPIC-SIZE DONATION

The Triple J Saipan group of companies donated $1,000 to Saipan Southern High School to help pay for the tuxedos that the Manta Ray Band will wear when they perform in London at select Olympics ceremonies that begin later this week. Presenting the check to SSHS principal Jesse Tudela is Triple J Motors GM Randy Steele. They are joined by, from left, John J. Santos, Triple J 5-Star Wholesale Foods GM; Mhabie Parico, Triple J Motors accounting staff; and Ferdie Generoso, Triple J Motors parts supervisor.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

WEDDED BLISS

Happy 54th wedding anniversary to Pepe and Auring Santos! May your marriage be blessed with love, joy, and companionship for all the years of your lives! We love you both! Greetings come from Joanie, Joseph, Briana, and Joshua.

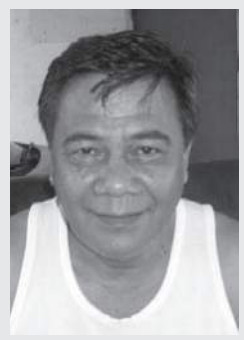
BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Happy birthday to Eydie Uy, who will be celebrating his birthday today, July 25! We wish you all the happiness in life. Keep being healthy and may you have many more birthdays to come. Greetings come from the staff and management of Hotel Sun Palace and Makeover Beauty Salon.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday to our mommy, Elaine "Bodig" Benjamin! We thank God every day for you. May you have the greatest day ever and more! With all our love, your husband, kids, and grandkids.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

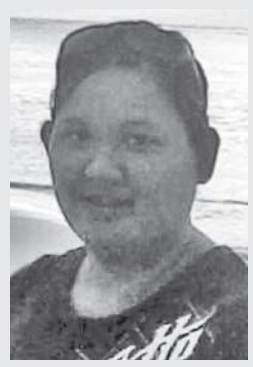


Happy birthday greetings go out to Roger Valguna, who is celebrating his special day today! Wishing you all the great things in life and hoping this day will bring you an extra share of all that makes you happiest. Greetings come from Nene and Bata, Susan and Monching.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 5th birthday blessings for our lovable Kyrie Anne N. Cepeda! May God continue to shower you with happiness and love! You will forever be our princess! With lots of love, Mommy, Daddy, and Jacqueline.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday greetings go out to Katrina T. Cabrera! Wishing you tons of blessings to come your way. We love you! Greetings coming out from Dad, Boy, Kiana, and Alana.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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EDITORIAL

End-game in Syria

As the weekend began, it had become apparent that Syria's horrific 17-month uprising against the regime of President Bashar al-Assad had entered its final stages. It remains only to be seen how many people must die before Assad realizes that and what, if anything, the international community can do to ease Syria's transition to whatever comes next.

Assad has limited options:

■ He can cut a deal and hope to escape to exile to Moscow or Tehran with his life; almost anywhere else, he would be trailed by war crimes investigators.

■ He can continue pounding rebels and Sunni neighborhoods with his tanks and helicopter gunships, though his four top generals were assassinated last week, other officers are deserting by the dozen, home-made bombs are killing an increasing number of his troops and his army's largely Sunni rank and file doesn't like him very much.

■ He can start a wider war and choose martyrdom, though few in his grieving nation would mourn him.

Assad is a sophisticated man, a British-educated ophthalmologist. When he became Syria's president in 2000 following the death of his father, the longtime dictator Hafez al-Assad, there were hopes that he would modernize the nation. Instead, he reinforced Syria's reputation as a garrison state, a sponsor of international terrorism, a Russian client nation and an ally of the Shiite mullahs in Iran.

A wiser man would have realized that the Arab Spring that began in early 2011 eventually would spell his doom. The numbers were against him. A member of Shia Islam's Allawite sect, Assad rules a nation that is 75 percent Sunni Muslim. He assumed that his 330,000-man army and air force, armed to the teeth with Russian weapons, could maintain control.

For 17 months Assad's military gunned down his own people. The death toll is reliably estimated at 17,000. The number of refugees who have fled to Jordan, Turkey and Lebanon exceeds 200,000. This is manmade catastrophe created by one man. However he goes, it is long past time.

He lasted this long only because of his astonishing brutality and a huge advantage in firepower. But the lesson of modern asymmetric warfare is plain: Heavy weapons don't matter as much as they used do. Cheap explosives triggered by cell phones can disable main battle tanks. Car bombs can wipe out artillery pieces and entire platoons. Last Wednesday, a bomb planted by either an infiltrator or a suicide bomber wiped out Assad's military brain trust.

He should have taken the deal offered by Kofi Annan, the former United Nations' secretary general who is acting as a U.N. special representative. It boiled down to this: Just stop killing your own people and we'll work it out so that you can stay.

Before Assad goes, as he must, he could use his chemical weapons stockpile against his own people, or hand them over to Hezbollah, his terrorist allies. He could launch an attack on Israel to change the subject, creating a cataclysm.

The United Nations can't stop this—a Russian and Chinese veto in the Security Council last week saw to that. Diplomatic efforts should focus on convincing Russian President Vladimir Putin that if wants to be seen as a hero, he should invite Assad to Moscow and keep him there. If necessary, in the Lubyanka.

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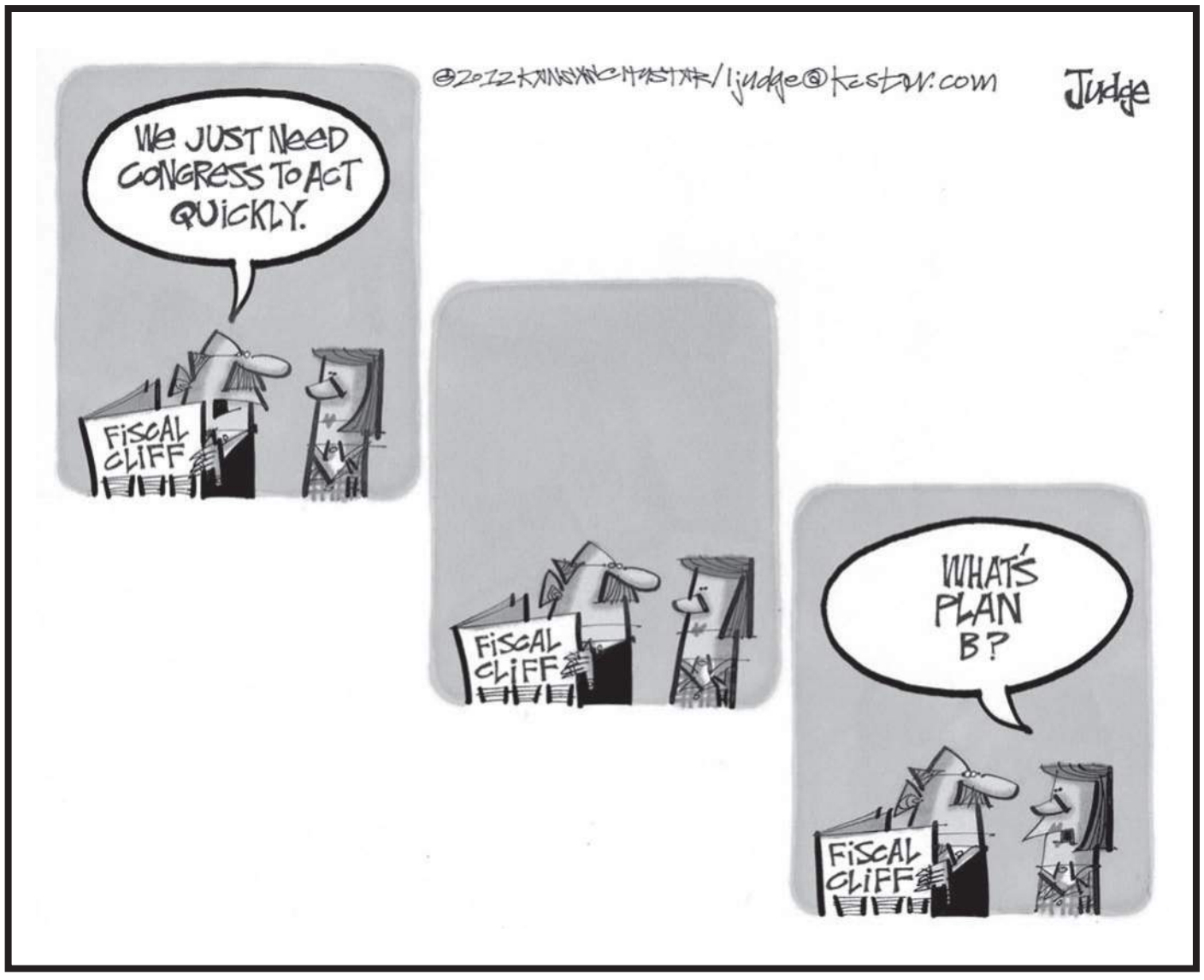

Train rails Mukden

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) is a former PSS teacher and is currently writing from the campus of Shenyang Aerospace University in China.

The poetic name for our journey would have to be *from Mukden to Manzhouli.* We took one two years ago *from Mukden to Mudanjiang* of Heilongjiang. The late NoKor chairman Kim Jung Il favored Mudanjiang as a transit point. He avoided flying, perhaps from a Chaoxian practical sense that a disgruntled subordinate, or alien assassin, will find it more difficult to get to him on a train than on a plane. He always rode his private train to Mudanjiang before proceeding to Beijing, a frequent destination in his last days in office.

All right, geography buffs. Mukden (currently Shenyang where we live) is the name I learned in history, made famous by the 1931 Imperial Japanese forces' military occupation of the region by claiming that the Japan-built-and-ran railroad in Mukden was bombed by nationalist rebel forces. Already occupants of the old Manchu land of the Qing Dynasty known to the Russians as Manchuria, to Nippon as Manchukuo, the overcrowded islands of Meiji's Land of the Rising Sun looked at geographical expansion and saw Manchuria as a possible destination of eager hardworking and compliant Japanese immigrants.

Rebuffed by the racist immigration policies of the United States after Nippongos helped farm Hawaii and California, tolerated but outcast in the former Portuguese-Spanish regions of Brazil-Argentina, Japan's most convenient area of expansion was China's *Dong Bei.* Not to justify Japanese behavior, but from a historical perspective, the Hans never really considered the land of the Manchus as part of Zhongguo, the Middle Realm. Its Great Wall was meant to keep the northern meat-eating, horse-riding invaders—the Kitans, Mongols, Jurchens, and Manchus—from moving to the rich agricultural and vegetable+pork/fish diets of the south.

We remember the Mongols because of Kublai and Genghis Khan from the steppes. Manchu was the last royal house before China declared itself a republic. They both assimilated to the ways of the Han, and made their territories part of the Middle Realm rather than apart from it. Their traditional geography, save for the Mongols who split between pro-Soviet Mongolia and Nei Menggu, became part of the post-'49 China.

So, back to Mukden mentioned in history books for the Sept. 18 bombing of the railroad, China's equivalent to Roosevelt "a day that will live in infamy" after Pearl Harbor. The Qings in their waning days ceded Formosa to Japan and after 1912, when the Qing young Emperor abdicated and China became a republic, Japan and the rest of colonial Europe and America drooled to carve out geographical areas of influence on Napoleon's sleeping tiger.

Mukden (a Manchu word recognized by both Russia and Japan) is not a phrase familiar to my students, and understandably so. It was the foreigners' name to present Shenyang, formerly Fongtian ("listen to the voice of heaven"), then Shengjing, (the capital city, sheng=capital, jing=city; thus, bei=north, and nan=south, makes Beijing and Nanjing, the northern and southern cities!).

The Shenyang railroad station still looks like the rest of the red-bricked buildings sporting the date they were built in 1912; it is getting a massive facelift, in the middle of new high rises, to welcome the China Games in 2013. The aluminum-steel flying vaults that hold the rafters turn this relic of the past into the modern ambience of metropolitan architecture—a remarkable marriage of the old and the new.

Shenyang to Manzhouli is easily a distance of 1,500 km but the journey takes 21 hours, going through the capital city of Changchun in Jilin province, proceeding to Harbin, Heilongjiang's capital, and then to Qiqihar before reaching Hulanbier prefecture of Haliar, Manzhouli, and Mohe.

Once on the rails, we watched urban towers draped in green dust filters turn into verdant fields of corn, high as the farmhouse's roofs on the tail end of July, reminiscent of travels through Kansas and the American prairies. The single story farmhouses hang low roofs to contain the heat in the winter from coal fired steam generators. In the provincial border between Liaoning and Jilin, we noticed the aluminum forest flowers. Staggered along the distant ridges are huge windmills generating electrical power to alleviate China's reliance on carbon-dirty coal.

Changchun is as modern a city as any. An industrial center of Japan's Manchukuo, it became the automobile manufacturing capital of the new republic. Next door to Yanbian, the Korean Autonomous Region, Changchun benefits from Korean investments in the region. Upon arrival at the terminal, we noticed the scent of *la bai cai* (Chinese) *kim chee* (Korean) in the air! We were not displeased!

Young factory workers on a company tour to Inner Mongolia joined the sleeping berths in Jilin. The night punctuated by girlish giggles and beer belches kept us in and out of slumber, but we did not mind. When the gals started saying "excuse me," "sorry," and other choice phrases they remember from school, with the encouragement and participation of the guys, after discovering we were an English teacher, it was time to call it a night.

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A day at Meltdown Coliseum

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Delrosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

As the crowd takes its seat at the Economic Meltdown Coliseum in the skies, there were whispers of superhuman beings wearing expensive ties entering the venue quietly. There's also the pensive look on their faces for inadvertently showing up at the Ring of Fire.

Though the whispers were inaudible, the issues snap in intense heat from spouts of a huge crowd who could no longer tolerate nursing life at the brink of abject poverty. They're fixated on the query: What have superhuman beings (elected elite) done in recent past to revive the local economy that would in turn improve their livelihood?

The MC took a glance at the crowd, explaining the purpose of the evening affair. Said he: "We're here to ask legislators to account for every penny of their extra $5,000 monthly stipend so it is made available for public scrutiny before the midterm election. This is a must in that it came directly from taxes we've paid annually. Please include car leases, cost per month, and gasoline expenses.

"For the governor and lieutenant governor, we would like an ocular review of your monthly utility bills, cost of security services and drivers hailing from the Department of Public Safety. Please include all costs related to breakfast, luncheon, and dinner for state guests and loyalists. Taxpayers deserve to know the actual cost of freebies you receive while they struggle to save a good portion of the family income to catch up with highly prohibitive utility bills. It's disturbing your collective sense of immunity from the hardship at the village level."

"Legislators, taxpayers also wish to know whether you're still accruing 3 percent per year that goes into increasing your future pension paycheck. If so, why wasn't this privilege extended equally to other employees throughout the government? Explain why you approved a very lucrative 3-percent increase for your retirement while all others are denied the same. Isn't this grossly unfair and can you explain yourself please?" fumed the MC. *Eh, what's good for the goose is also good for the gander.*

The MC pointed out: "You've become a broken record, procrastinating on reducing the size of the Legislature. Why hasn't the two chambers settled on an initiative so this is placed before the voters this midterm election or in a special plebiscite? How much longer must you use lame and redundant rhetoric, only to see day's end with a lot more said than done? How do you explain that to taxpayers who are struggling to survive while you splurge at their expense?

There was a half-hour break to allow the crowd to organize their questions. When the MC resumed the meeting, the bleachers where fancy Sears Roebuck and JC Penny ties were dangling was empty. Politicians have found another escape hatch from having to face the truth. It's despicable the amount of annual expenses in salaries and unearned perks only to see them slink away from their fiduciary duties while amassing a loot paid for by taxpayers. What do we get in return? *A` Saina!*

■ ■ ■ ■

Crisis in policymaking

Policymaking is a difficult task. It never begins with tightening your Sears Roebuck or JC Penny ties nor does it end there. It focuses on lawmaking that would benefit some 80 percent of the general public. To brave it without a decent perception and comprehension of the monumental task at hand makes you the servile darling or the admirably misguided comic in town. Your lame courage is admirable though the taxpayers despise getting the perfect screw for two or four long years.

Strangely appalling the plethora of ad hoc policies approved in recent past, most of which are either shamefully shallow or completely irrelevant when viewed against the deepening economic meltdown at home. There were policies on panty display in Garapan and bicycling regulations.

The authors, Raphael Demapan and Joseph Palacios, must panty-up or bicycle-up to relevant policy legislation relating to the deepening economic meltdown paralyzing basic public services. Or are you clueless on the real issue that is right below your nose, daily? Hello? Are you even at home, by any chance? Or do you need us to shield and rescue you from your purposeful and embarrassing ignorance? It's amazingly appalling!

The imposition of punitive fees and taxes right smack in the middle of a woefully poor business climate is demonstrative of their shallow perception of the laws of unintended consequences. It's another indication of the lack of clarity of understanding of the educated paradigms the CNMI needs to revive a traumatically paralyzed local economy. Believe it or not, it transcends donning newly arrived Sears Roebuck and JC Penny ties, more taxpayer-paid steak and lobsters, and laws on panty displays and bicycle regulations.

And if we don't do something concrete to change the sleepy heads on the hill, we would only be entrenching life of hardship in perpetuity.

■ ■ ■ ■

Buddy Magoo related he thinks he's contracted magasitis—an imperious mental disorder of arrogance by indigenous folks picked for powerful positions—that only happens in these Taga Stone isles. I related my disagreement. In other words, I am a struggling retiree under water while he's a farmer. He and I both suffer from arthritis, not magasitis. (Laughter).

■ ■ ■ ■

Jay Leno: Jobless claims rose again by 35,000 recently. Not good. But it does show that if you're unsuccessful in this country, you didn't do it on your own. You had help. Thank you, President Obama.

■ ■ ■ ■

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke told a congressional committee the economic recovery is weakening. But the good news is most Americans will not be affected because they had no idea there was a recovery.

Mandela's mortality is South Africa's fear

By DOUGLAS FOSTER
Los Angeles Times

Douglas Foster, associate professor of journalism at Northwestern University, is the author of After Mandela: The Struggle for Freedom in Post-Apartheid South Africa*, which will be released in September. He wrote this for the* Los Angeles Times.

"Everybody dies."

That's what Nelson Mandela began telling startled associates years ago, even seeming cheerful at the prospect. He retired for the first time in 1999, when he stepped down as South Africa's first post-apartheid president. Then, in 2004, he announced that he would "retire from retirement," his sly way of signaling that this time, he really meant to step away from the outsized role he had played in the country for more than 60 years. "Don't call me, I'll call you," he said on that occasion.

Mandela has seemed at peace with that decision in the years since, enjoying family at his home in rural Qunu and largely staying out of national politics. As he celebrated his 94th birthday last week, though, many of his countrymen fretted about the prospect of a South Africa without him.

In recent years, reports that Mandela was in poor health, no matter how minor his illness, have sparked public frenzies, including periodic media scrums outside hospitals where he was being treated. Websites operated by right-wing whites have even prematurely announced Mandela's death online, warning of secret plans for a racial bloodbath. It is a measure of his hold on the imaginations of even the country's most racist whites that they believe Mandela's continued existence is somehow crucial to protecting them from annihilation.

For the vast majority of South Africans, mostly black and poor, the reluctance to let go of Madiba (his clan name) or "Tata" (grandfather), as he's widely known, is understandable. It is a standard trope, after all, to ascribe the supposed "miracle" of the largely peaceful transition in 1994 to the exercise of "Madiba's magic."

And beneath the worry and fears about Mandela's death—on the part of blacks and whites alike—is a disturbing truth: that the promise Mandela made to help found a nonracial, nonsexist, egalitarian society at the southern tip of Africa has foundered in the last decade.

South Africa, for all its progress, remains a quite un-miraculous place. It's modern cities are bordered by sprawling slums, and the rural areas, where a significant percentage of the population lives, are mired in poverty and often lack the most basic infrastructure. The country endures sky-high unemployment among the young, devastating levels of crime and millions needlessly dead of AIDS.

Some of the problems were almost inevitable, the result of post-apartheid hopes colliding with an economy that had been structured for the benefit of a few at the expense of everyone else. To complicate things further, democratization arrived in the newly liberated nation more or less concurrently with rapid globalization and the AIDS plague.

Coming to power in such turbulent circumstances, Mandela fumbled in several significant respects. He never drew a clear enough line between party prerogatives and the use of state power. He also missed the chance, as president, to launch a much-needed massive public health campaign on HIV.

But if Mandela was less than perfect, the men who followed had far more glaring flaws and little of the first president's inclination to serve as a national moral conscience. His immediate successor, Thabo Mbeki, made matters far worse on the AIDS front by delaying treatment for rising numbers of HIV-infected South Africans. When action mattered most, he provoked a drawn-out and damaging debate over established medical science by questioning the link between HIV and AIDS. An aggressive campaign to contain the epidemic wasn't fully launched until he was forced from office in 2008.

Mbeki's successor, Jacob Zuma, came into office in 2009 tainted by a trial on rape charges (he was acquitted, though he admitted to having had sex with his much-younger accuser) and under the cloud of criminal charges for corruption that were dropped on the eve of the election. Given the apparent devolution in leadership—from Mandela to Mbeki to Zuma—it is small wonder that people began to worry about the future.

In fairness to the leaders who succeeded him, the beloved Mandela was among the toughest acts in history to follow. His task had been herculean: bending the course of history to end legalized oppression of the great majority of South Africans and establish a sustainable democracy. But those who followed had an almost impossible task too in trying to bring about true equality and material freedom.

In the midst of so many reverses, it's worth emphasizing that the new democracy, despite many stresses, has held together. When Mbeki was asked to resign his presidency by leaders of his party in 2008, he did so in a nationally televised address. Similarly, Zuma will either retain his post as leader of his party, the African National Congress, or be ushered from it through an election of party delegates at a national conference in December.

By most measures—with the notable and worrying exception of a recent increase in the number of politically motivated assassinations—there seems to be a deepening commitment to the idea that power changes hands after debate and through votes rather than force. Eighteen years into a new experiment in democracy, there also remains a vibrant civic culture, an independent judiciary and a free, if embattled, media.

This kind of cultural undergirding of freedom and political stability was not preordained in 1994; rather, it was constructed, in significant part by the example of the new country's founding president. Several years into his term as head of state, Mandela announced that he would step away from power voluntarily after a single term. Perhaps this decision reverberates so powerfully because it is so rare, and not only in Africa. Leaders the world over see themselves as indispensable agents long after what South Africans refer to as their "sell-by date." In the rarefied world of world leaders, far too many politicians would rather burn the house down than turn over the keys. Perhaps Mandela's most profound gift was to insist upon his own dispensability.

For this, and so many other things, he will always be cherished.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼78°	▲88 ° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

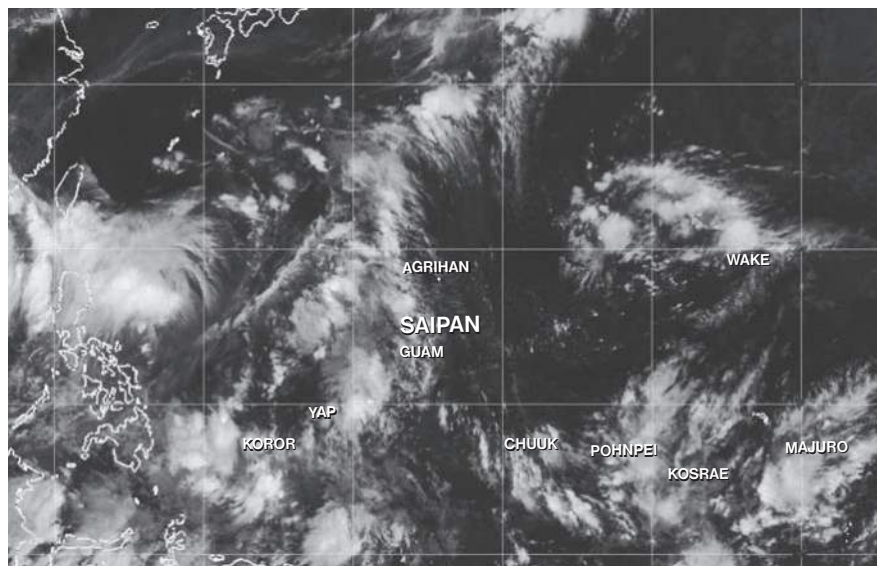
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼80
Palau	Showers	▲83	▼76
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲90	▼78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼78
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87	▼76
Kosrae	Showers	▲87	▼76
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼81

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲59	▼52
Beijing	Thunderstorms	▲81	▼75
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲87	▼82
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲86	▼75
London	Sunny	▲77	▼57
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲80	▼61
Manila	Thundershowers	▲86	▼78
Melbourne	Showers	▲55	▼45
Miami	Sunny	▲92	▼78
New York	Sunny	▲85	▼71
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲91	▼77
Paris	Sunny	▲85	▼65
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼77
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲90	▼69
Salem	Sunny	▲85	▼59
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲63	▼52
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼72
Tokyo	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼76
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲91	▼74

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, JULY 24, 2012

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends southeastward through 14N130E to a circulation centered south of Koror at 5N135E then continues east-southeast to end south of Chuuk at EQ149E. Scattered showers are found near Koror west of a line from 10N133E to 3N136E and south of a line from 3N137E to 3N144E. A surface trough extends northeastward from 14N136E to 21N141E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are seen just west of the Mariana islands within 250 miles of a line from 11N140E to 23N141E. An upper-level low centered southeast of Okinawa at 23N133E is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms within 60 miles of a line from 23N131E to 23N135E. Converging low-level winds are generating widely-scattered showers and a few thunderstorms across Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae states and the Marshall Islands between the equator and 8N from 150E to 175E. An upper-level low centered west of Wake Island at 18N158E is triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms northwest of Wake Island between 19N and 25N from 155E to 167E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

12:33 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
7:17 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet
12:55 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
6:54 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:58 AM	6:49 PM
Thursday	5:58 AM	6:49 PM
Friday	5:58 AM	6:49 PM
Saturday	5:58 AM	6:48 PM
Sunday	5:59 AM	6:48 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	11:06 AM	11:06 PM
Thursday	12:03 PM	11:54 PM
Friday	1:03 PM	
Saturday	2:04 PM	12:47 AM
Sunday	3:05 PM	1:43 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 14, 2012

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5062	2:40am	3:10am	1, 3, 5

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA5074	11:30am	12:20pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:50pm	7:40pm	Daily
UA5072	9:55pm	10:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL285	6:30am	9:15am	1, 3, 5, 7
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)

0Z606/120	2:20am	8:50pm	1 via ICN
0Z606/120	2:50am	8:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

0Z606	2:20am	6:00am	1
0Z606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
0Z604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily

SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

0Z606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
0Z606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:00pm	Daily via NRT
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	Daily via GUM
UA5076/193	3:10pm	10:25pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
0Z604/703	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

0Z606/721	2:20am	11:50pm	1 via ICN
0Z606/721	2:50am	11:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:45pm	1, 5 via GUM
0Z604/723	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5062	3:40am	5:40am	1, 3, 5 via SPN

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)

UA5062	3:40am	4:15am	1, 3, 5

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5062	2:40am	4:15am	1, 3, 5 via ROP
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:10am	8:00am	Daily
UA5073	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:25pm	6:15pm	Daily
UA5079	8:35pm	9:25pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL286	7:40pm	12:15am +1	2, 4, 6, 7
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily

OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN

0Z119/606	9:30am	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z119/606	9:30am	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

0Z603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
0Z605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

DL172/288	7:50am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:15pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA5071	10:10pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA192/5071	9:45pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:25pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM
0Z704/603	11:40pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

0Z724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA180/5071	10:35pm	8:00am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Business

Europe shaken by fear Spain will need full bailout

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP)—Europe is on the brink again. The region's debt crisis flared on Monday as fears intensified that Spain would be next in line for a government bailout.

A recession is deepening in Spain, the fourth-largest economy that uses the euro currency, and a growing number of its regional governments are seeking financial lifelines to make ends meet. The interest rate on Spanish government bonds soared in a sign of waning market confidence in the country's ability to pay off its debts.

The prospect of bailing out Spain is worrisome for Europe because the potential cost far exceeds what's available in existing emergency funds. Financial markets are also growing uneasy about Italy, another major European economy with large debts and a feeble economy.

Stocks fell sharply across Europe and around the world. Germany's DAX plunged 3.18 percent. Britain's FTSE dropped 2 percent and France's CAC 40 fell 2.89 percent. In midday trading on Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 1.35 percent. The euro slipped just below $1.21 against the dollar, its lowest reading since June 2010.

The interest rate on its 10-year bond hit 7.56 percent in the morning, its highest level since Spain joined the euro in 1999.

AP

Journalists work at the Stock Exchange in Madrid Monday July 23, 2012.

Concern over Spain increased Monday after the country's central bank said the economy shrank by 0.4 percent during the second quarter, compared with the previous three months. The government predicts the economy won't return to growth until 2014 as new austerity measures hurt consumers and businesses.

On top of that, Spain is facing new costs as a growing number of regional governments ask federal authorities for assistance. The eastern region of Valencia revealed Friday it would need a bailout from the central Madrid government. Over the weekend, the southern region of Murcia said it may also need help.

Spain has already required an emergency loan package of up to (EURO)100 billion ($121 billion) to bail out its banks. But that aid hasn't quelled markets because the government is ultimately liable to repay the money. It had been hoped that responsibility for repayments would shift from the government to the banks. But that shift is a long way off—a pan-European banking authority would have to be created first and that could be years away.

Yet it is far more than Spain's struggle that has unnerved markets.

Greece is still struggling with a mountain of debt and international creditors will visit the country Tuesday to check on the country's attempts reform its economy. There is concern that officials from the European Commission, European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund will find that that Greece is not living up to the terms of its bailouts and could withhold future funds.

ASK THE EXPERTS

How should I tap my cash for daughter's college?

By CLAUDIA BUCK
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

For baby boomers with kids going off to college, one of the biggest decisions is how to pay for tuition.

This week, certified financial planner Walt Romatowski, president of Castellan Financial Advisors in Roseville, Calif., offers a road map.

He's one of our "Ask the Experts" panelists, who answer readers' online questions on money matters.

QUESTION: I'm about to start paying for my daughter's college education. The tuition per year is approximately $30,000. I have certain buckets of money to tap into, including about $60,000 in stocks, bonds, etc. Also, my wife has $70,000 in cash and I have $25,000. Since the market is so crazy now, should I use the liquid cash to start?

I will be paying in two installments, so I need to decide quickly. One payment is due at the end of July for $13,500. For later payments, we have life insurance policies with a total cash value of about $14,000. Would it be a good idea to use this cash? I don't see in the fine print where it will change my policy payout at the time of death.

My wife and I are both in our late 50s. We have other retirement savings in 401(k) accounts that we don't plan to touch. I also have two pensions coming to me at some point. I have the money to pay for college, but am just not sure where to draw from first. I have a financial planner who has been of little help. Your advice is appreciated.

ANSWER: From your comments, I assume that your retirement savings and pensions will be sufficient to allow you to live comfortably during your retirement years. Paying for your children's education should not be at the expense of your retirement.

Make sure that you have factored in retirement expenses related to health insurance and possible long-term care. You also should maintain an emergency fund in case of a job loss or inability to work for any reason.

If you have not already done so, you should explore the possibility of obtaining financial aid for your daughter's education expenses. Many parents don't even try, but financial aid—loans or scholarships—may be more accessible than you think. Check out this website: http:///www.finaid.org.

Before discussing where you should draw the money from, let's discuss gift taxes.

Under current law, you and your wife are allowed to gift up to $13,000 each per year (that's the "annual exclusion" from federal gift taxes). This means the two of you could gift $26,000 to your daughter, with the remaining $4,000 going against your "lifetime gift tax exemption," which is currently $5 million. Under this scenario, you would be required to file IRS Form 709 when making the gift.

You can avoid the possibility of exceeding your annual gift tax exclusion amount—and save a lot of paperwork—by taking advantage of the "educational exclusion for payments made directly to a qualifying institution." The payment must be made directly to the institution providing the education, not to the (student) receiving the education. The payment must be for "tuition only."

As to where you should draw the money from: Since you have cash in hand, which is probably not earning very much, I would use that first.

If your cash is parked at very low-paying financial institutions (i.e., 0.5 percent interest rate), check out Bankrate.com for better deals. Online banks are safe, as long as they are FDIC-insured. The rates will not make you a millionaire, but you should be able to get close to 1 percent.

Be patient with your stock and bond investments. You should see growth over the long haul.

You can withdraw some or all of the cash value of your insurance policy to help pay for your daughter's education. The amount you can withdraw is generally limited to a percentage of the cash value and varies by policy and company. In addition, the insurance company will charge processing fees for withdrawals.

Mini iPad may arrive by holidays, along with new Kindle Fire

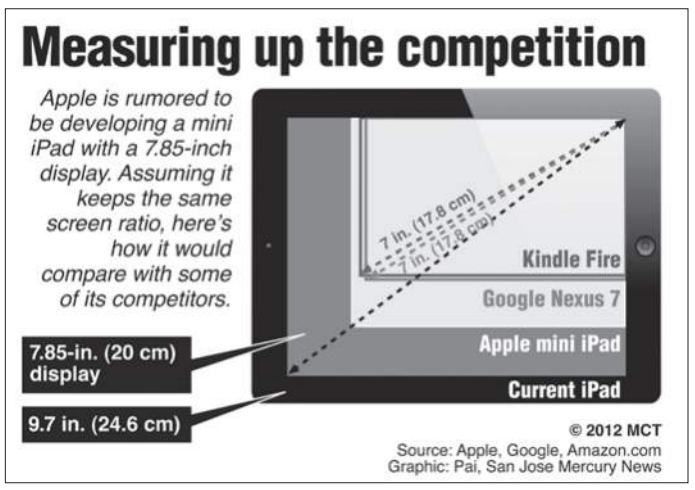
By SCOTT MARTIN
USA TODAY

Apple is building a miniature iPad to rival Amazon's Kindle Fire and Google's new Nexus 7 tablet, according to one report, as a battle royal over tablet computers shapes up among technology's biggest names.

Apple is moving toward mass production of smaller iPads, according to industry tracker DisplaySearch. The move comes as Amazon quietly preps its next Kindle Fire. Both are expected to be released ahead of the holidays.

Apple spokeswoman Trudy Muller declined to comment.

The race to build book-size tablets is driven by consumer desire for greater portability. But the world is going bonkers for tablets of all shapes and sizes. IDC forecasts that by 2016 there will be 222 million tablets shipped worldwide, and 61 percent of those will be sold by Apple.


Measuring up the competition
Apple is rumored to be developing a mini iPad with a 7.85-inch display. Assuming it keeps the same screen ratio, here's how it would compare with some of its competitors.
7.85-in. (20 cm) display
9.7 in. (24.6 cm)
7 in. (17.8 cm)
Kindle Fire
Google Nexus 7
Apple mini iPad
Current iPad
© 2012 MCT
Source: Apple, Google, Amazon.com
Graphic: Pai, San Jose Mercury News

Google just last week launched its 7-inch Nexus 7, available for pre-order, and expanded the number of movie, TV, music and e-books available from its online Google Play store. Meanwhile, Microsoft last month unveiled its Surface tablets sporting a supersize 10.6-inch screen vs. the iPad's 9.7-inch one.

"There's going to be a ton of choices for consumers by the fourth quarter," said IDC analyst Tom Mainelli.

Yet each company—Apple, Amazon, Google and Microsoft—courts tablet buyers for different reasons, besides selling the devices themselves, analysts say. Microsoft wants its profitable Windows operating system, built into the Surface tablets, to live on among the mobile masses.

Google, which depends on ad revenue, wants the Nexus 7 to be a magnet for more ads.

Amazon subsidizes its tablet and uses it mainly as a way to sell books and other products from its online stores. Apple uses its popular iTunes Store as a lure to sell its iPad at a premium.

Apple's smaller iPad, sporting a 7.85-inch screen, is expected to be assembled in time for an October stage debut. "We're starting to see more concrete evidence that it's going to be produced" in that time frame, said DisplaySearch analyst Richard Shim.

Apple's iPad scaled down from its current screen size would be a potent rival to other small tablets, including Barnes & Noble's Nook Color. A mini iPad would also add more luster to the evolving market for lower-cost media-consuming tablets that fit in the hand.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
12,721.46	1,350.52	2,890.15
-101.11	-12.14	-35.15
-0.79%	-0.89%	-1.20%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	0.9706	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7570	Philippine Peso	42.0200
British Pound	0.6439	Indian Rupee	55.9700	Singapore Dollar	1.2587
Canadian Dollar	1.0182	Indonesian Rupiah	9,472.00	South Korean Won	1,147.35
Chinese Yuan	6.3871	Japanese Yen	78.2690	Swiss Franc	0.9904
Euro	0.8245	Malaysian Ringgit	3.1765	Taiwan Dollar	30.0980
		New Zealand Dollar	1.2628	Thailand Baht	31.7300

Nation

Colo. shooting suspect in court with orange-red hair

By P. SOLOMON BANDA and NICHOLAS RICCARDI
ASSOCIATED PRESS

This photo combination shows a variety of facial expressions of James E. Holmes during his appearance at Arapahoe County District Court Monday, July 23, 2012, in Centennial, Colo.

CENTENNIAL, Colo. (AP)—His hair dyed a shocking comic-book shade of orange-red, James Holmes showed up in court for the first time, but didn't seem to be there at all.

The world's first look at the man accused of killing 12 moviegoers and injuring 58 others in a shooting rampage at a packed midnight screening of the new Batman film was that of a sleepy, seemingly inattentive suspect.

Holmes shuffled into court Monday in a maroon jailhouse jumpsuit with his hands cuffed. Unshaven and appearing dazed, Holmes sat virtually motionless, his eyes drooping as the judge advised him of the severity of the case. At one point, Holmes simply closed his eyes.

He never said a word.

Prosecutors said they didn't know if he was being medicated. His demeanor, however, angered victims' relatives. Tom Teves, whose son, Alex, was killed in the attack, watched Holmes intently throughout the roughly 12-minute hearing, sizing up the 24-year-old former doctoral student.

"I saw the coward in court today and Alex could have wiped the floor with him without breaking a sweat," Teves said. His son, a physical therapist, dove to protect his girlfriend during "The Dark Knight Rises" shooting at a multiplex in nearby Aurora in the Denver suburbs.

The court appearance gave millions the chance to scrutinize Holmes' every movement, every flutter of his heavy eyelids and form their opinions.

"It struck me that this is a person who's been through an emotional maelstrom and therefore might be totally wiped out emotionally," said Dr. Jeffrey Gardere, an assistant professor of behavioral medicine at Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Gardere said there could be "a psychotic process going on and we see that being acted out there. Or there might be some sort of malingering going on. In other words, trying to make himself look worse than he actually is. Or maybe a combination of all of those things."

The hearing was the first confirmation that Holmes' hair was colored. On Friday, there were reports of his hair being red and that he told arresting officers that he was "The Joker." Batman's nemesis in the fictional Gotham has brightly colored hair.

Authorities have declined to confirm if Holmers told officers that he was Batman's enemy. Investigators found a Batman mask inside his apartment, a law enforcement official close to the investigation said Sunday on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the news media.

Holmes, whom police say donned body armor and was armed with an assault rifle, a shotgun and handguns during the attack, was arrested shortly afterward. His home was booby-trapped with a trip wire, explosives and unknown liquids that took a day to disarm.

Police have said Holmes began buying guns at Denver-area stores nearly two months before Friday's shooting and that he received at least 50 packages in four months at his home and at school.

Holmes, who is being held in isolation, is refusing to cooperate, authorities said. They said it could take months to identify a motive.

The shooting was the worst in the U.S. since the Nov. 5, 2009, attack at Fort Hood, Texas. An Army psychiatrist was charged with killing 13 soldiers and civilians and wounding more than two dozen others.

On Monday, security was tight as uniformed sheriff's deputies were stationed outside, including on the roofs of both court buildings.

Holmes' entrance into the courtroom was barely noticeable but relatives of shooting victims leaned forward in their seats to catch their first glimpse of him. Two women held hands tightly, one shook her head. One woman's eyes welled up with tears.

Holmes sat down in a jury box, next to one of his attorneys. When the judge asked him if he understood his rights, his attorneys did all the talking.

NCAA slams Penn State, fines it $60 million

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. (AP)—A potential exodus of star athletes. No hope of playing in the postseason. More than a decade of accomplishments erased from the record books. And Joe Paterno's legacy in shreds.

Penn State football, a longtime powerhouse that was once one of the cleanest, most admired programs in college sports, escaped the so-called death penalty from the NCAA on Monday but was dealt a heavy blow that will cripple it for years to come.

The university agreed to an unprecedented $60 million fine, a four-year ban from postseason play and a cut in the number of football scholarships it can award—the price it will pay for having looked the other way while Jerry Sandusky brought boys onto campus and molested them.

The NCAA also erased 14 years of victories, wiping out 111 of Paterno's wins and stripping him of his standing as the most successful coach in the history of big-time college football.

AP

Laura Lovins, a Penn State University sophomore from State College, Pa., center, reacts while listening to a television in the HUB on the Penn State University main campus in State College, Pa., as the NCAA sanctions against the Penn State University football program are announced Monday, July 23, 2012.

"Football will never again be placed ahead of educating, nurturing and protecting young people," NCAA President Mark Emmert declared.

Penn State meekly accepted its punishment, pledging to hold itself to high standards of honesty and integrity.

Penn State spokesman David La Torre said university President Rodney Erickson had no choice but to acquiesce, given the threat of a total shutdown of the football program.

"It was clear Penn State faced an alternative—a long-term death penalty and additional sanctions for the program, university and whole community. Given the situation, he believed the sanctions offered and accepted was the appropriate and course of action," La Torre said.

At a student union on campus, several dozen alumni and students gasped, groaned and whistled as they watched Emmert's news conference. The news was a crushing blow to many students.

Nicole Lord, a senior, questioned why Penn State's student body, and especially its athletes, should be punished "for the wrongs of three men and a monster."

"They keep breaking our hearts and breaking our hearts and breaking our hearts," she said.

Sandusky, a former member of Paterno's coaching staff, was found guilty in June of sexually abusing 10 boys over 15 years, sometimes on campus. An investigation commissioned by the school and released July 12 found that Paterno, who died of lung cancer in January at age 85, and three other top officials at Penn State concealed accusations against Sandusky for fear of bad publicity.

Contempt motion dropped against Ky. teenager

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)—A Kentucky teenager frustrated by light punishment for two boys who pleaded guilty to sexually assaulting her was spared Monday from having to face a contempt charge for naming them on Twitter in violation of a court order.

The case of Savannah Dietrich, 17, quickly gathered supporters nationwide who were upset that the victim of an assault could be punished for speaking out against her attackers.

The girl turned to Twitter after she said she was frustrated with what she felt was a lenient plea deal. The judge had ordered no one to speak about the case, which was in juvenile court.

On Monday, attorneys for the boys dropped their motion to charge her with contempt. David Mejia, an attorney for one of the boys, said the decision to withdraw the motion had nothing to do with public sentiment and online attention to the case.

He said the purpose of the motion had been to enforce the law that protects juveniles and their actions from disclosure.

"The horse is out of the barn," he said. "Nothing is bringing it back."

The Associated Press does not generally identify victims of sexual assault, but Dietrich and her parents wanted her story to be made public. She gave her account to The Courier-Journal newspaper in a story published Saturday. She has not responded to the AP for comment and her lawyer, Emily Farrar-Crockett of the public defender's juvenile division, did not immediately return telephone calls.

Jeff Dion, deputy executive director of the National Center for Victims of Crime, said victims who feel cheated by the justice system sometimes file civil lawsuits in an effort to get information in the public, but social media has turned that on its head.

"It's all about giving victims a voice," Dion said.

In one day, an online petition on Change.org had garnered 62,000 signatures in support of Dietrich's action.

Asia

Philippines to boost defense, won't yield to China

By JIM GOMEZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—President Benigno Aquino III said Monday that the Philippines won't back down in a South China Sea dispute with China and that his country's military will soon get dozens of new aircraft and ships for maritime defense.

Aquino announced in his annual state of the nation address that more than 40 military aircraft—including attack helicopters and two newly refurbished C-130 cargo planes—and other weapons would be delivered in the next two years to bolster Philippine military muscle amid renewed territorial tensions in the South China Sea.

A second former U.S. Coast Guard cutter is to arrive soon from the United States, following a refurbished cutter that was relaunched by the Philippine navy last year as its largest and most modern warship.

Washington has also provided $30 million to strengthen the Philippine military in addition to helping establish a national coast watch center to help protect the country's 36,000-kilometer (22,370-mile) coastline, Aquino said.

AP
Philippine President Benigno Aquino III gestures as he delivers his 3rd State of the Nation address at the House of Representatives in suburban Quezon City, north of Manila, Philippines Monday July 23, 2012.

But he stressed that the Philippines hopes to forge a peaceful solution that will be acceptable to China.

A standoff erupted in April between Chinese and Philippine ships at Scarborough Shoal, which both countries claim. The territory is called Huangyan Island in China and Bajo de Masinloc in the Philippines. Aquino withdrew his country's ships from the area last month as tensions with Beijing escalated, but Chinese government ships have stayed.

Some Philippine lawmakers have suggested that the Aquino administration tone down its rhetoric and quietly negotiate a compromise with China. A senator has described the lopsided feud as a clash between a mosquito and a dragon.

"There are those who say that we should let Bajo de Masinloc go. We should avoid the trouble," Aquino said in his nationally televised speech before Congress. "But if someone entered your yard and told you he owned it, would you agree? Would it be right to give away that which is rightfully ours?"

"I do not think it excessive to ask that our rights be respected, just as we respect their rights as a fellow nation in a world we need to share," Aquino said, referring to China.

Taiwan, Malaysia, Vietnam and Brunei also have conflicting claims in the South China Sea. Many fear the resource-rich and busy waters could spark Asia's next major armed conflict.

China, meanwhile, on Monday named the mayor and other officials of a new city it established last month under its southernmost Hainan province to administer all the disputed territories it claims in the South China Sea, the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

Xiao Jie was named mayor of Sansha city, which will have a military presence, Xinhua said.

Vietnam and the Philippines have protested the city's establishment.

About 6,000 police officers were deployed to secure the House of Representatives, where Aquino spoke, and nearby roads. Several people were injured when riot police clashed with thousands of left-wing and trade union protesters who were seeking higher wages, land reform and a halt to alleged human rights violations.

Question after floods: Did China build too fast?

By ALEXA OLESEN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIJING (AP)—Recent heavy rains across much of China have left nearly 100 people dead, state media said Tuesday. More than a third of the fatalities were in the flood-ravaged capital, where some residents questioned whether the city's rapid push for modernization came at the expense of basic infrastructure such as drainage networks.

Authorities in Beijing were still trying to pump water from sections of flooded highway after Saturday night's torrential downpour, the city's heaviest rain in six decades.

The city government said 37 people died: 25 drowned, six were killed when houses collapsed, one was hit by lightning and five were electrocuted by fallen power lines.

Beijing residents shared photos online of submerged cars stranded on flooded streets, city buses with water up to commuters' knees and cascades of water rushing down the steps of overpasses.

Nearly 57,000 people were evacuated from their homes and damage from the storm reached at least 10 billion yuan ($1.6 billion), according to a report by the Beijing Daily newspaper on the Beijing government website.

Heavy rain also proved deadly elsewhere in the country. The official Xinhua News Agency reported late Monday that 95 people had died and 45 were still missing across 17 Chinese provinces and municipalities, including Beijing. It cited the Civil Affairs Bureau.

Although Beijing's worst-hit areas were in rural hilly outskirts of the city, the scale of the disaster was a major embarrassment for China's showcase capital, where such things are not supposed to happen.

AP
In this Sunday, July 22, 2012 photo, vehicles destroyed in a flood pile up in a ditch in Fangshan district of Beijing, China.

The city has seen tens of billions of dollars poured into its modernization, including iconic venues for the 2008 Olympics, the world's second-largest airport, new subway lines and dazzling skyscrapers. But the floods raised questions about whether basics like drainage were neglected.

"If so much chaos can be triggered in Beijing, the capital of the nation, problems in urban infrastructure of many other places can only be worse," said a commentary in Monday's state-run Global Times newspaper. "In terms of drainage technology, China is decades behind developed societies."

The criticism mirrors some of that seen after a high-speed train crash that killed 40 people in Wenzhou in southeastern China a year ago Monday. That turned into a public-relations nightmare for the government and led many to question the quality of infrastructure in the country and the government's transparency on disasters.

Some pointed out that Saturday's deluge was historic in nature, with the Global Times noting it was the heaviest rainstorm in the capital in 61 years. The worst-hit area of the city received 460 millimeters (18.4 inches) of rain on Saturday.

"In just one day, it rained as much as it normally rains in six months in Beijing," said Zhang Junfeng, a senior engineer from the Ministry of Transport who runs weekend tours of Beijing reservoirs and gives lectures on water conservancy. "No drainage system can withstand rains this big."

In Qinglonghu, a village about 40 kilometers (25 miles) from downtown Beijing where many migrant workers from surrounding provinces have settled, at least two dozen brick homes were flooded.

Typhoon brings strong winds to China coast

HONG KONG (AP)—A powerful typhoon slammed the Chinese territory of Hong Kong on Tuesday, injuring dozens, disrupting communications and bringing business to a standstill in one of the world's leading financial centers.

Typhoon Vincente made landfall at 4 a.m. (2000 GMT Monday), after the Hong Kong Observatory issued its No. 10 hurricane signal—the highest—for the first time since 1999.

By early morning, wind speeds that had reached around 140 kph (88 mph) moderated to 59 kph (37 mph), and the observatory lowered its signal, though still warning the territory's residents of strong gales.

The government said that 118 people had been injured during the night, including 52 admitted to hospitals. Flying debris struck several people in the central business district and subway stations around the territory were converted into temporary shelters to accommodate dozens of stranded passengers.

At daybreak, the normally bustling Central district resembled a ghost town, with the stock market and major banks closed, and businesses shuttered.

Dozens of flights at Hong Kong airport were cancelled or delayed, and ferry services linking Hong Kong island, with Kowloon, the New Territories and outlying islands were suspended.

Throughout the morning, cleanup crews struggled to remove fallen trees and branches from major roadways. Some flooding was reported in the New Territories.

After smashing through Hong Kong, Vincente headed into China's Guangdong province. The official Xinhua News Agency said nine flights were canceled at Zhuhai Airport on Monday evening, with heavy rain falling in the region. Train services in the region were rescheduled because of the storm.

Philippine rights office to investigate mass grave

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippines' human rights commission said Monday that it would investigate a report by the military that it has exhumed a mass grave containing at least 30 suspected victims of a 1980s communist rebel purge.

Loretta Ann Rosales, chairwoman of the Commission on Human Rights, said her office would look into the mass grave, but that it's too early to say whether the remains found in northern Quezon province were victims of a rebel purge.

Soldiers and policemen on Sunday unearthed at least 30 skeletal remains of people believed slain by New People's Army, or NPA, rebels as suspected military spies in the 1980s, army spokesman Maj. Harold Cabunoc said.

The remains were exhumed from a shallow grave discovered by a farmer in San Francisco town, he said.

Cabunoc said some of the skeletons bore marks of torture, including cracked skulls.

He said none of the remains had been identified, and appealed to those with missing relatives to cooperate with authorities in identifying them.

Rosales urged caution before drawing conclusions. "We will investigate, but let's not make any conclusion yet on who did it," she said in a telephone interview.

Leaders of the Communist Party of the Philippines and its armed wing, the NPA, have acknowledged that some rebel commanders killed 600-900 suspected spies and government informers in the southern Mindanao region more than two decades ago.

More than 60 other suspected spies were killed in Quezon province and outlying areas southeast of Manila, according to people who survived the purge.

The guerrillas later acknowledged the killings as among the most horrible blunders in the Marxist insurgency, which has raged for 43 years.

Cristina Palabay, spokeswoman for the Philippine human rights group Karapatan, challenged the military to prove its allegation that the grave contained victims of the NPA.

She said similar discoveries in the past had been used by the military as reasons to arrest left-wing activists allegedly linked to the mass killings.

World

Syria could use chemical weapons if attacked

By ELIZABETH A. KENNEDY and PAUL SCHEMM
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AP
This citizen journalism image provided by Shaam News Network SNN, taken on Sunday, July 22, 2012, purports to show a fireball in Homs, Syria.

BEIRUT (AP)—Syria threatened Monday to unleash its chemical and biological weapons if the country faces a foreign attack, a desperate warning from a regime that has failed to crush a powerful and strengthening rebellion.

The statement—Syria's first-ever acknowledgement that the country possesses weapons of mass destruction—suggests President Bashar Assad will continue the fight to stay in power, regardless of the cost.

"It would be reprehensible if anybody in Syria is contemplating use of such weapons of mass destruction like chemical weapons," U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said during a trip to Belgrade, Serbia. "I sincerely hope the international community will keep an eye on this so that there will be no such things happening."

Syria is believed to have nerve agents as well as mustard gas, Scud missiles capable of delivering these lethal chemicals and a variety of advanced conventional arms, including anti-tank rockets and late-model portable anti-aircraft missiles.

During a televised news conference Monday, Foreign Ministry spokesman Jihad Makdissi stressed that the weapons are secure and would only be used in the case of an external attack.

"No chemical or biological weapons will ever be used, and I repeat, will never be used, during the crisis in Syria no matter what the developments inside Syria," he said. "All of these types of weapons are in storage and under security and the direct supervision of the Syrian armed forces and will never be used unless Syria is exposed to external aggression."

The Syrian government later tried to back off from the announcement, sending journalists an amendment to the prepared statement read out by Makdissi. The amendment said "all of these types of weapons—IF ANY—are in storage and under security." It was an attempt to return to Damascus' position of neither confirming nor denying the existence of non-conventional weapons.

In his comments to reporters, Makdissi also repeated the regime's assertion that the country's 17-month-old conflict, which activists say has killed at least 19,000 people, is not the result of a popular uprising, casting it instead as the work of foreign extremists looking to destroy the nation.

Israel and the U.S. are concerned that Syria's stockpile of chemical weapons could fall into the hands of Islamist militants should the regime in Damascus collapse. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warned Sunday that his country would "have to act" if necessary to safeguard the arsenal from rogue elements.

In Washington, State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland said Monday that "any possible use of these kinds of weapons would be completely unacceptable."

"The Syrian regime has a responsibility to the world, has a responsibility first and foremost to its own citizens to protect and safeguard those weapons," she said, adding that Washington was working with allies to monitor the situation and send the message to both Syria's government and opposition about the importance of protecting non-conventional weapons.

A senior U.S. intelligence official said Friday the Syrians have moved chemical weapons material from the country's north, where the fighting was fiercest, apparently to both secure and consolidate it, which U.S. officials considered a responsible step.

But there has also been a disturbing rise in activity at the installations, so the U.S. intelligence community is intensifying its monitoring efforts to track the weapons and try to figure out whether the Syrians are trying to use them, the official said on condition of anonymity to discuss the still-evolving investigation.

Concerns over Syria's long-suspected chemical weapons stockpiles have skyrocketed in recent days as the rebels gain serious momentum in their fight to oust the Assad regime.

Since last week, the anti-Assad fighters have claimed a stunning bomb attack that killed four high-level security officials in Damascus, captured several border crossings and launched sustained offensives in Damascus and Aleppo, the two largest cities and both regime strongholds.

Makdissi tried to assure Syrians that the situation was under control, despite reports of clashes throughout the country.

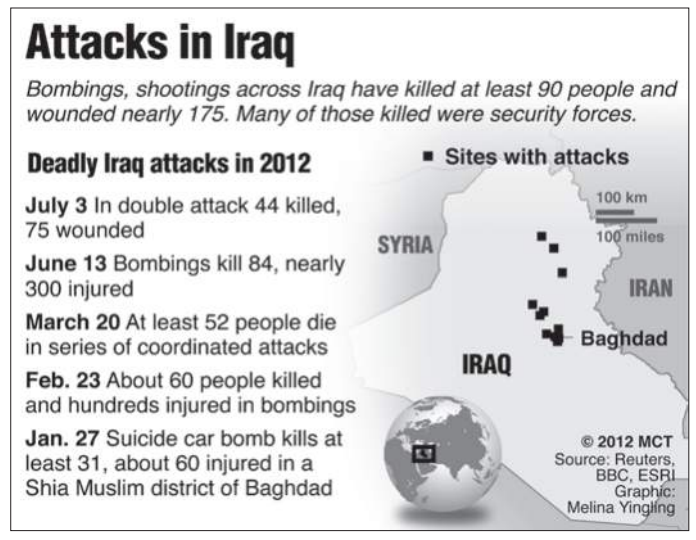
"Yes, there were clashes on certain streets in certain neighborhoods, but the security situation is now much better. Everyone is feeling reassured," he said. "We are not happy about this, but this is an emergency situation and it will not last more than a day or two and the situation will return to normal."

Security forces appeared to show more government control in videos posted online by activists Monday. Some of the clips show Syrian militia sweeping through Damascus neighborhoods once held by rebels, kicking down doors and searching houses in mop up operations against the fighters that had managed to hold parts of the capital for much of last week.

It was a different story in Aleppo, however, where the Britain-based Syria Observatory reported fierce fighting in a string of neighborhoods, including Sakhour and Hanano, in the northeast of Syria's largest city.

Attacks bring Iraq's deadliest day in 2 years

AP
People inspect the aftermath of a car bomb attack in Baghdad's Shiite enclave of Sadr City, Iraq, Monday, July 23, 2012.


Attacks in Iraq
Bombings, shootings across Iraq have killed at least 90 people and wounded nearly 175. Many of those killed were security forces.
Deadly Iraq attacks in 2012
July 3 In double attack 44 killed, 75 wounded
June 13 Bombings kill 84, nearly 300 injured
March 20 At least 52 people die in series of coordinated attacks
Feb. 23 About 60 people killed and hundreds injured in bombings
Jan. 27 Suicide car bomb kills at least 31, about 60 injured in a Shia Muslim district of Baghdad
Sites with attacks
100 km
100 miles
SYRIA
IRAN
Baghdad
IRAQ
© 2012 MCT
Source: Reuters, BBC, ESRI
Graphic: Melina Yingling

By LARA JAKES
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD (AP)—A startling spasm of violence shook more than a dozen Iraqi cities Monday, killing over 100 people in coordinated bombings and shootings and wounding twice as many in the country's deadliest day in more than two years.

The attacks came only days after al-Qaida announced it would attempt a comeback with a new offensive against Iraq's weakened government.

With the U.S. military gone and the government mired in infighting, the Iraqi wing of al-Qaida has vowed to retake areas it once controlled and push the nation back toward civil war. Though there was no immediate claim of responsibility for Monday's attacks, nearly all of them struck in the capital and in northern Iraqi cities where al-Qaida can most easily regain a foothold.

"Terrorists are opening another gate of hell for us," said Kamiran Karim, a sweets-seller in the northern city of Kirkuk, which was hit by five exploding cars throughout the morning. He suffered shrapnel wounds when one of the car bombs blew up about 200 meters (yards) from his cart.

So far this summer, militants linked to al-Qaida have claimed responsibility for a steady drumbeat of attacks designed to keep the government off-balance as it works to overcome a power struggle that pits Sunni and Kurdish leaders against the Shiite prime minister. The infighting, which escalated the day after the U.S. military withdrew last December, has all but paralyzed the government and deepened sectarian tensions around the country.

Iraqi and U.S. officials insist al-Qaida is incapable of sowing the kind of widespread violence that would return Iraq to sectarian warfare. And indeed, Shiite militias so far have held back from returning fire. But Monday's attacks prove al-Qaida's continued ability to thwart security, undermine the government and create chaos in a fragile democracy that experts fear is headed toward a failed state.

Iraqi President Jalal Talabani, a Kurd, accused militants of "spreading panic and fear" and urged political parties to resolve their differences and help restore stability.

Many of Monday's attacks were stunning in their scope and boldness. They bore the hallmarks of al-Qaida, happening within a few hours of each other and striking mainly at security forces, government officials and Shiite neighborhoods.

In one brazen assault, three carloads of gunmen pulled up at an Iraqi army base near the northeastern town of Udaim and opened fire, killing 13 soldiers before escaping, two senior police officials said.

In another, a car bomb exploded outside a government office in Sadr City, the poor, sprawling Shiite neighborhood in northeast Baghdad. Sixteen people died.

"The only thing I remember was the smoke and fire, which was everywhere," said Mohammed Munim, an employee at the office who woke up in a nearby emergency room with shrapnel in his neck and back.

The deadliest attack, however, took place just north of Baghdad in the town of Taji, where a double bombing killed at least 41 people. The blasts were timed to hit as police rushed to help victims from a series of five explosions minutes earlier.

Focus

Bread queues, destruction as war comes to Damascus

By BASSEM MROUE and ZEINA KARAM
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MASNAA, Lebanon (AP)—After a bloody, weeklong siege in the Syrian capital, residents who stayed behind are facing hours-long lines for gasoline and bread, stinking piles of garbage in the streets and scenes of destruction unimaginable in a city that had long been spared the worst ravages of the country's uprising.

It's a gruesome turn for the distinguished Middle Eastern city of Damascus, one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world, and a sign that Syria's civil war appears doomed to escalate.

Residents in the hardest hit neighborhoods of Midan, Qaboun and Barzeh picked through the rubble of destroyed homes, charred cars and mangled electricity cables. Even as the government claimed on Monday to have largely put down rebels in the city, some residents fearing more violence continued to trickle into neighboring Lebanon, where thousands fled during the height of the fighting last week.

"I never thought I would see gunmen clashing with the army on the streets of Damascus, people fleeing their homes," said Nahed, a 32-year-old peace activist in Damascus. "It's like Lebanon but in reverse," she said, referring to the 2006 war between Israel and Hezbollah when thousands of Lebanese poured into Syria, looking for safety.

For a year and a half, residents of the Syrian capital went about their daily business, largely oblivious as President Bashar Assad's forces and rebels laid waste to towns and cities across the country. Restaurants, cafes and night clubs filled up every night with members of a Damascus elite convinced that the regime would keep the fighting away from its heavily guarded seat of power.

So when the "Damascus Volcano"—as anti-regime activists call the unprecedented eruption of rebels in the capital—struck on July 14, many in the city of 1.7 million were unprepared.

The veneer of calm was shattered and the once bustling, tourist-friendly metropolis was transformed into a virtual war zone as government forces unleashed their full might against the insurgents. Helicopter gunships and tanks blasted rebel positions in neighborhoods. Artillery batteries fired down from the mountains overlooking Damascus into the city.

Long lines built up at the border crossing into Lebanon with cars packed with families and their belongings. Some who stayed packed "getaway bags" with passports, diplomas, money and other valuables in case they had to run for their lives.

"I feel very bad leaving Damascus," said a woman from the upscale Mazzeh district, which also saw fighting, after she arrived in a taxi at the Masnaa border crossing Monday. "I was crying the whole night yesterday when I said goodbye to my family."

"I never thought this would happen in Mazzeh," she said quietly. Wearing a shirt and blue jeans, she held her blond, 8-year-old daughter's hand and said she would spend a week in Lebanon until the situation became clearer. She, like others who spoke to The Associated Press, refused to give her name for security reasons.

For days, Damascenes slept and woke up to the crackle of machine-gun fire and thud of explosions. Gray smoke covered parts of the city's skyline. Tanks and armored personnel carriers rolled onto streets as soldiers set up checkpoints, searching people's cars and asking for IDs. Trash piled up as garbage collectors stopped working.

The government virtually sealed the city off from its suburbs in an attempt to keep more rebels from infiltrating. While the heaviest battles were concentrated in specific, rebellious districts, random shootings broke out across Damascus, including firefights near the prime minister's office and only a few hundred meters (yards) from parliament. Residents locked themselves in to their homes. Most shops shut down.

"I haven't gone out in days, it's crazy outside. Everyone is shooting at everyone else and I don't want to die by mistake," a 28-year-old resident of Mayssat, a neighborhood close to the hard hit Rukneddine district, told AP by telephone over the weekend.

Activists say dozens were killed in the days of fighting, though there is still no firm number.

The hardships coincided with the start over the weekend of the holy month of Ramadan, when Muslim families typically meet over lavish meals to break their daylong fast and watch seasonal TV soap operas. Instead, they now tune in to satellite stations for news of fighting.

Until last week, Assad had largely succeeded in shielding Damascus from the violence gripping the rest of the country since the uprising against his rule began in March 2011. Activists say more than 19,000 people have died in the crackdown that has since given way to a grueling civil war as rebels got better armed.

There had been occasional violence in the capital, including car bombs and suicide attacks that hit military facilities and regime gunfire on protesters. But the weeklong rebel assault was by far the fiercest and most sustained. Amid the fighting, the rebels also carried out a stunning bombing inside a regime security facility that killed four senior figures involved in directing the crackdown on the uprising.

By Monday, Syrian forces appeared to have regained control of most of the capital as government forces kicked down doors and searched homes for rebels. Foreign Ministry spokesman Jihad Makdissi told a press conference that the security situation was now "much better."

"This is an emergency situation and it will not last more than a day or two and the situation will return to normal," he said.

Government workers and regime supporters sprayed "we love you" on walls in Midan, but graffiti demanding freedom could still be seen in some areas. Dozens of destroyed, burnt out cars, shell-pocked homes and torn, mangled electricity cables were on display, witnesses told AP.

At the normally bustling market in the Shaalan district Monday, people waiting in line for bread got into an argument that illustrated the divisions in the country. One woman accused the rebels of bringing disaster on the country.

"What about the helicopters shelling people in Mazzeh?" someone shouted in reply.

"Everyone who carries a weapon deserves that," came the answer.

"I pray to God that all this will end soon," a third woman said despondently, ending the conversation.

Shops in the battleground districts remained closed. So were the fancy shopping centers in the Kfar Souseh neighborhood, an area neighboring Mazzeh that houses new, high rise buildings and the Foreign Ministry. Only the supermarket at the Sham City Center mall opened for few hours over the weekend, causing a rush of residents trying to snap up short supplies of vegetables, fruits, meat and bread.

"I could not get a loaf of bread or any kind of vegetables," said Lana, a 29-year-old mother of two.

Across the city, long lines formed at gas stations and bakeries.

Hadeel, a 29-year-old marketing manager, ventured out on Monday after days huddled in Mazzeh to try to fill up her car's tank in case she and her family had to flee. But the line was too long. "I couldn't, I didn't want to stay in line for hours," she said.

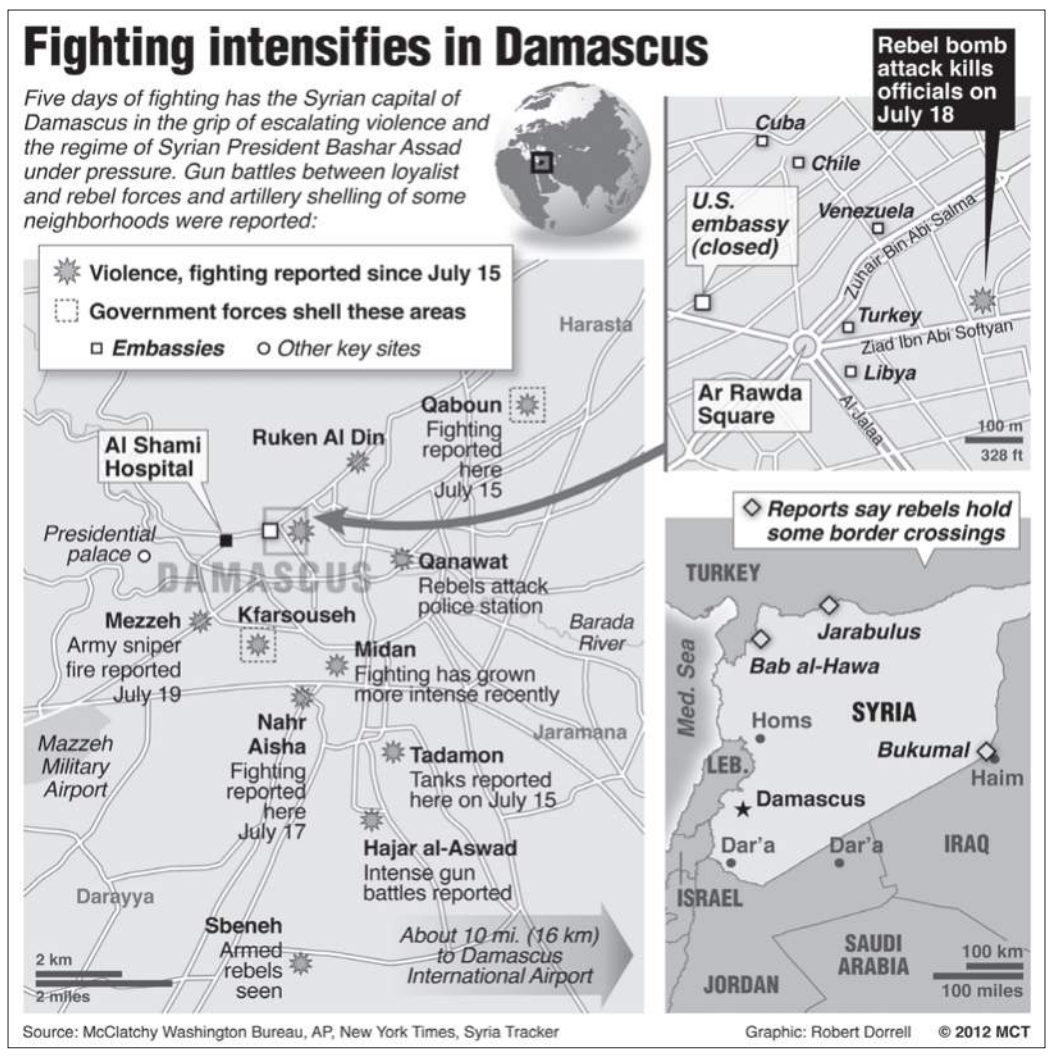
At the Masnaa border crossing, not everyone was driving into Lebanon.

Majed, a 45-year-old taxi driver from Damascus' Midan district, was heading home, "now that the state has carried out its duties and cleansed" the area.

"The people of Damascus are not used to wars," he said. "There was real fear in Damascus last week."

AP

This citizen journalist image shows Syrians walking past destroyed vehicles after fighting between rebels and Syrian troops in the Yarmouk camp for Palestinian refugees in south Damascus, Syria, Saturday, July 21, 2012.



Campus Life

CLASS OF 2012

Five European graduates face rocky future

Athina Prassa in Athens mastered English in four years studying at a private university. It's a skill that may [illegible] as she hunts for [illegible] right thugs roam [illegible] neighborhood.

Lucy Nic[illegible] London graduated f[illegible] ion school brimming with optimism. It took just [illegible] for real life to step in: She fell victim to a scam that left her broke and desperate for work.

Rafael Gonzalez del Castillo in Madrid has pulled countless all-nighters to win a degree in his passion, architecture, just as Spain's building bust has littered the country with abandoned buildings.

Moira Koffi in Paris left her widowed mom in Normandy for "bohemian life" at the Sorbonne. Now the communications grad is heading into the real world.

Lutz Henschel in Berlin graduated near the top of his class with a degree in electrical engineering in Europe's top economy. Since January he's sent out nearly 40 applications, and is still chasing his dream of working in renewable energies.

Meet AP's Class of 2012: five talented and vibrant university graduates who face a rocky future as they emerge from the cocoon of student life and head into the worst economic crisis Europe has seen since the end of World War II, one that threatens to engulf an entire generation.

They're excited. They're scared. They're full of hope. And full of uncertainty.

The Associated Press will follow them over the next 12 months as their lives unfold in the crisis—through text, photo and video dispatches, as well as webcam diaries and tweets straight from the graduates themselves. The tapestry of their lives will help illuminate the story of Europe's crisis itself, as their futures are shaped by the continent's soaring youth unemployment, corrosive debt, migration trends and aging population.

Europe's turmoil has profound implications for the future of young people everywhere. After all, the European Union is this interconnected world's biggest economy, and it's struggling badly.

Austerity is eroding an envied way of life. Long-cherished certainties about cradle-to-grave welfare are evaporating. As leaders scramble to extinguish one debt fire after another, the futures of ordinary people grow dimmer.

Europe's rapidly graying societies are creating even more of a burden on this generation of young people who are finding it so hard to carve out a future.

Those twin crises will challenge Lutz as he leaves his studies in Europe's strongest economy, even with its low youth unemployment rate of 8 percent.

They will haunt Lucy and Moira in Britain and France, where more than a fifth of all young people are unemployed.

Athina and Rafa worry they'll have to move abroad to survive. In Greece and Spain, youth unemployment is above 50 percent.

"I don't think this time is suitable for fulfilling your dreams," Athina says. "That can happen later."

This is the AP Class of 2012:

ATHINA PRASSA, 22

"Want to see my fridge?" Athina asks a visitor.

She's a natural optimist but it's hard to keep up the cheer as she gazes at the lonely milk carton and container of butter on empty shelves.

"There are days," she says, "where I forget what it's like to eat meat."

Athina left her family home on the island of Lemnos four years ago to study at the private Hellenic-American University in Athens. Her parents were able to pay for her studies but not much more. It meant she ended up in a crime-ridden neighborhood notorious for its extreme-right thugs, where she lives rent-free in an apartment owned by her godmother.

Her parents sent her 100 euros ($120) a week at first, then cut it back to half that when they couldn't afford more.

Now she's on her own.

"My parents can't send me money anymore to live here," she says. "I'm really scared about the future."

She longs to work in Athens but is worried the crisis will force her to leave Greece.

She says the hard times, brought on by years of profligate spending in Greece, have taught her some valuable lessons: "It's funny, but I think the crisis has turned me into a better person, because I definitely hate money right now. ... I see how people go crazy about money."

She despises the anti-immigrant Golden Dawn party that roams her neighborhood.

Through all the turmoil, Athina still holds onto her dreams. She wants to work in fashion. She wants to backpack around Europe. She wants to visit America.

And she still manages to have fun with her friends in Athens—which she calls "a jungle"—by taking advantage of the beaches and free concerts and art exhibitions.

At a recent gallery event, Athina stood staring at a photograph of a demolition site. Spray-painted over it in red was one word: FUTURE.

LUCY NICHOLLS, 22

Lucy sits against a backdrop of rose-patterned wallpaper emblazoned with the word "Wish," the name of the fashion magazine that's her graduation project.

She's presenting it at a London show called RAW to launch Middlesex University fashion grads like herself, exuding a mixture of confidence and jitters.

The fashionista with artsy glasses and bright red hair has paid a Lithuanian company 2,000 pounds ($1,550) to print 500 copies of WISH, which she's planning to ship to customers.

She concedes her optimism verges on the "cocky."

But she also has a dose of realism: "I'm going to need money very soon. Luckily the magazine is going to bring in a tiny, weeny little bit ... But I'm going to need a job pretty soon, that's for sure."

A week later, disaster strikes: The printing company has gone bust and disappeared with her money.

Now she's broke and needs a job fast: "I realize because of this catastrophe with the magazine I need work now. I really, really need to be making money."

The setback doesn't keep her down for long: She's picked up some freelance photography work for a London PR agency that's helping her pay the bills. Meanwhile, she has revamped her resume to wade into her first real job hunt.

Lucy says her teachers didn't prepare her for life: "We don't get told anything about industry or the real world. We didn't ever get told about what jobs were really out there."

Half-English, half-French, Lucy comes from a rural town in Surrey, south of London. She says her father warned her about how hard life can be: "You have to be prepared to be living off beans."

Fluent in French, she says she could try Paris for a while—but things aren't much better there, and in any case she sees her future in the British capital.

"I've been told by everybody London is where it's at, London is where you've got to be."

RAFAEL GONZALEZ DEL CASTILLO, 24

Rafael—or Rafa as everyone calls him—is a budding architect in a nation that's gone through one of the worst building busts in modern times.

He loves his field. He loves Spain. But he fears his future lies abroad.

Like millions of other young Spaniards trapped in the nation's devastating economic spiral, he says he'll jump at any opportunity for rewarding work—be it in Sudan, Chile, Alaska or Mongolia.

He just presented his final project—a design for urban greenhouses and terraced farmland on the marshy banks of a river—at Madrid's Polytechnic University. If it's approved by a jury, he'll officially be an architect in October.

Then what? A stroll through the wasteland.

The construction industry was crushed by the implosion of a real estate bubble in 2008. It's ground zero of Spain's economic crisis, with more than 1 million jobs lost in that industry alone.

Rafa, however, keeps on dreaming.

An actor in the university drama troupe, he talks a mile a minute with charm and eloquence, gushing enthusiasm for his chosen profession. He loves his studies so much he'd do it all over again—despite the doom that hangs over the industry.

Rafa refuses to believe that after a five-year journey through one of Spain's most demanding schools, what awaits him is the edge of a cliff and a plunge into the dead-end jobs in bars or supermarkets that many of his fellow college grads are taking up to get by.

He breaks into this riff: "Since I was little, they told me, 'when you get to middle school, you will fail some subjects.' I did not fail. 'When you get to high school, your grades will go down.' They did not. 'When you get to university, you will fail.' OK, I have failed a few subjects, but I got by. So I do not want to be told again that there is not going to be any work. I simply do not believe it.

"It all depends on me."

Gonzalez is not angry about his plight. He says everybody in Spain is to blame—consumers hooked on loans, banks that threw around the money, politicians who sat back and watched it all inflate dangerously.

"In the end," he says, "it is all of us at least a little bit."

MOIRA KOFFI, 22

Moira worries if she'll have a job when she gets back from vacation in Greece.

She worries about how she'll live in Paris once she has to leave student housing.

Above all—following big gains by far-right parties in France, Greece and elsewhere—the African-French communications grad worries about a racist wave engulfing Europe: "It's like the 1930s again. I don't get why people can recreate this atmosphere of hate and fear. It's crazy."

Moira just handed in her thesis at the Sorbonne, capping three years of study.

She started out as a journalism major, but switched to corporate communications when crisis hit in 2008.

"I wanted to be a journalist, but then I heard about everyone who couldn't find jobs," Moira says.

But by the time she graduated the downturn had expanded, and now half of France's new graduates have no work.

"Can it get any worse?" she says with a wry laugh. "Well, maybe if the European Union explodes."

Moira has had time to come to terms with the crisis. Its start coincided with her move to Paris four years ago. Leaving her widowed mother teaching school in a small town in Normandy, Moira made her way in the capital as countless young students have before her, counting her centimes and enjoying "la vie boheme"—bohemian life.

The Sorbonne helped her find a short-term apprenticeship at a public relations agency, where she handles social media campaigns.

The four-day-a-week job ends in September. She wants to stay on, but there are no guarantees.

Moira budgets carefully, keeping expenses to around 600 euros ($750) a month. She goes out less than she did when she first moved to Paris, taking up hobbies like dressmaking and baking muffins. Her most recent creation? A "beautiful and classy" black dress. It's nearly finished after six months of work.

LUTZ HENSCHEL, 27

Lutz picks up his diploma in a soaring hall adorned with a sculpture of Nike, the Greek goddess of victory. He savors a glass of champagne. Listens to the music.

With a masters in electrical engineering in Germany, Europe's most successful economy, he knows his prospects are brighter than those of millions of other university graduates across the continent.

But since finishing his studies in January, Lutz has sent out nearly 40 applications and been through about 15 interviews, only to keep hitting a brick wall.

"At the beginning I felt disappointed because I believed that I was the reason for the rejections," he says. "But now I think that a lot of companies have too high expectations."

Even facing a shortage of skilled workers, elite German companies have been notoriously unwilling to hire students straight out of university. Lutz sees himself trapped in a Catch-22: "They expect a graduate to have specific knowledge and experiences which I think is impossible to have right after graduation."

The Berlin native who teaches karate on the side dreams of a job in renewable energy.

This month he took a six-hour train journey south for an interview with German engineering giant Bosch.

Two days later, it was an hour-and-a-half train ride north for an interview with a German-Danish company that builds wind farms.

He's confident that the latest interview went well: He got to talk to real engineers, not just HR reps.

"It's a little bit discouraging at first, because everyone is saying, 'you are sought so much, you're an electrical engineer, everyone wants you,'" Lutz says. "But then you get out, and it's not true."

On the eve of the launch of Class of 2012, Lutz's fortunes turn. He sends out this tweet:

"I got my first official job offer! I will stay in Berlin, building elevators."

Developing electric circuits for elevators is a far cry from Lutz's ambition of making the world a better place through green technologies, but it's a start.

"How awesome," he tweets.

(The Associated Press)

Life & Style

Mariah Carey joins 'American Idol' as new judge

By LYNN ELBER
AP TELEVISION WRITER

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Mariah Carey will join "American Idol" as a judge next season, Fox announced Monday, bringing her star power to the show that remains a ratings leader but has seen its viewership and pop culture status diminish.

"I am so excited to be joining 'Idol,'" said Carey, addressing the Television Critics Association via Fox entertainment chief Kevin Reilly's cellphone, which he put on speakerphone for the hotel ballroom meeting.

She couldn't be on hand with the group because "this kind of all just happened really quickly," Carey said in her brief remarks. "I can't wait to get started in the fall ... and I will see you in January."

The show, which saw judges Steven Tyler and Jennifer Lopez exit at the end of last season, will be back on the air for season 12 in January.

Reilly called Carey "the biggest recording artist that any of these (talent) shows has ever had," adding that she was the "artist that many of these contestants have tried to emulate, have tried some of the songs, have tried to hit the notes."

Playing the drama up, Reilly placed a call to Carey and put her on speaker.

"Hi, Mariah. How are you? It's Kevin," he said. "We do have a deal, don't we? Yes!"

Reilly said he was "thrilled" to confirm reports that Carey was being courted by Fox and said the deal was freshly signed within the last few hours. The Grammy-winning pop star is receiving just shy of $18 million a year for a one-year contract with a renewal option, according to a person familiar with the negotiations. The person, lacking authority to discuss the matter publicly, spoke on condition of anonymity.

The exit of Tyler and Lopez left original judge Randy Jackson and started a guessing game about potential replacements, with Carey at the top of the list.

As one of music's best-selling singers, she could provide the clout "American Idol" needs to compete in an increasingly crowded talent show field. Besides Fox sibling "The X Factor," which recently added Britney Spears and Demi Lovato as judges, there's NBC's "The Voice," which boasts Christina Aguilera among its big names.

AP
This June 2, 2012 file photo shows American singer Mariah Carey performing during a concert in Monaco.

"Not being the only game in town now, we need to keep things fresh," Reilly said. The search is on for a third judge, and he promised another impressive pick. It could a star or someone like music executive and "Idol" mentor Jimmy Iovine, who wasn't a household name when he joined, Reilly said. But, he added, after 12 seasons "we need to have something to talk about."

"We have the biggest names in the business, like Mariah Carey, interested in doing this ... so for the next couple of weeks it will be a matter of picking the right one, with the right chemistry, making the deal, and finalizing this," he said.

Jackson's value to the show was enhanced by Carey's signing, although Fox has yet to say whether he'll judge next season. Ryan Seacrest will be back as host.

"I can't confirm and don't want to talk about anyone" else on the show, Reilly said. But he added that Jackson "has been working with Mariah and is in fact her co-manager, and Randy was very instrumental in doing this deal."

Simon Cowell, the former "American Idol" judge who adapted his U.K. hit "X Factor" for Fox, was asked about Carey's new gig at a critics' session later Monday.

"I'm happy for her, actually. I like Mariah. I think she's going to find it difficult to say no. You've got to say no to people and she's sweet," he said, then quickly backtracked, adding, "No, I think she'll be great."

Cowell had reason to be diplomatic: Carey's husband, Nick Cannon, is host of Cowell's "America's Got Talent" on NBC.

"American Idol" ended the 2011-12 season as the leading entertainment show and No. 2 overall, just behind NBC's top-rated "Sunday Night Football."

Sally Ride, first US woman in space, dies at 61

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Space used to be a man's world. Then came Sally Ride, who blazed a cosmic trail into orbit for U.S. women. With a pitch perfect name out of a pop song refrain, she joined the select club of American space heroes the public knew by heart: Shepard, Glenn, Armstrong and Aldrin.

Ride, the first American woman in orbit, died Monday at her home in the San Diego community of La Jolla at age 61 of pancreatic cancer, according to her company, Sally Ride Science.

Ride

Ride flew into space on the space shuttle Challenger on June 18, 1983, when she was 32. Since then, 42 other American women followed her into space.

"Sally was a national hero and a powerful role model. She inspired generations of young girls to reach for the stars," President Barack Obama said in a statement.

When shuttles started flying frequently with crews of six or seven, astronauts became plentiful and anonymous. Not Ride.

"People around the world still recognize her name as the first American woman in space, and she took that title seriously even after departing NASA," Eileen Collins, the first female space shuttle commander, said in a statement. "She never sought media attention for herself, but rather focused on doing her normally outstanding job."

When Ride first launched into space, feminist icons such as Gloria Steinem and Jane Fonda were at Kennedy Space Center and many wore T-shirts alluding to the pop song with the refrain of the same name: "Ride, Sally Ride."

NASA Administrator Charles Bolden, a former astronaut, said Ride "broke barriers with grace and professionalism—and literally changed the face of America's space program."

"The nation has lost one of its finest leaders, teachers and explorers," he said in a statement.

Ride was a physicist, writer of five science books for children and president of her own company, which motivates youngsters to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and math. She had also been a professor of physics at the University of California, San Diego.

In 1978, NASA included women in the astronaut corps, selecting Ride and five other women to join the club, which had been dominated by male military test pilots. Ride beat out fellow astronaut candidates to be the first American female in space. Her first flight came two decades after the Soviets sent a woman into space and less than a year after a second Soviet woman flew.

"On launch day, there was so much excitement and so much happening around us in crew quarters, even on the way to the launch pad," Ride recalled in a NASA interview for the 25th anniversary of her flight in 2008. "I didn't really think about it that much at the time—but I came to appreciate what an honor it was to be selected to be the first to get a chance to go into space."

Ride flew in space twice, both times on Challenger, in 1983 and on October 5, 1984, logging 343 hours in space. A third flight was cancelled when Challenger exploded in 1986. She was on the commission investigating that accident and later served on the panel for the 2003 Columbia shuttle accident, the only person on both boards. She also was on the president's committee of science advisers.

The 20th anniversary of her first flight also coincided with the loss of Columbia, a bittersweet time for Ride, who discussed it in a 2003 interview with The Associated Press. She acknowledged it was depressing to spend the anniversary investigating the accident, which killed seven astronauts.

In Celebration of Her New Life

Therese Tenorio Lizama-Salas

November 05, 1965 – July 22, 2012
"Korason – Pilaku"

In Her New Life She Now Joins Her:
Parents: *Antonio Castro/Emiling Tenorio Lizama*
Grandparents: *Adela Reyes/Andreas A. San Nicolas, Jose Pangelinan Tenorio, Jose Cabrera/Consolacion C. Lizama*
Daughter: *Naomi Keola Lizama Delos Reyes*

Her Memories Will Forever Live In The Hearts Of Her:
Husband: *Martin Delos Santos Salas*
Children: *Allen James L/Dora Simitara (Rylee, Ryan, Raeanna Simitara), Antonio Jose L. Delos Reyes (Karen Castro), Martin L. Salas Jr., Kelvin Clyde L. Salas, Britiney Gale L. Salas, Keola Annette L. Salas*
Sisters/Brothers and In-Laws: *Linda L./Antonio C. Crisostomo and Children, Joseph T./Norma Q. Lizama and Children, James T./Jintana K. Lizama and Children, Ray Anthony T./Yvonne Q. Lizama and Children, Jennifer T. Lizama and Children, Elenita L./Peter Guiterrez and Children*

She will also be missed by numerous nieces, nephews, brothers & sisters in-law, aunt, uncles, godchildren and friends.

Nightly Rosary is being said at 7:00 pm at the Santa Soledad Church, Kagman.

On Thursday, July 26, 2012, our Beloved Therese's remains will arrive at 10:00am at the Francisco C. Ada International Airport and will immediately be escorted to the Borja's Funeral Home followed by the Holy Rosary.

On Monday, July 30, 2012, our Beloved Therese's remains will be taken from Borja's Funeral Home at 7:30 am to Kristo Rai Church in Garapan. Responso Services will be at 8:00 am followed by Holy Rosary and public viewing. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 am followed by interment service at Mount Carmel Cemetery.

Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase – Thank You
The Family

Some of your favorite actresses started out as models

By LUAINE LEE
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Did you ever wonder what happens to the superstar model once she's glittered for her last close-up? Well some of them, like Carman Dell'Orefice, just keep on posing. The white-haired Dell'Orefice has been modeling since 1947 and is still slouching with the best of them.

HBO is offering an intimate view of some of the world's most famous faces when it premieres the documentary, "About Face: Supermodels Then and Now" at 9 p.m. EDT July 30.

But "now' is not always the end of the runway. Many models answer the siren call of film and television, extending their careers long after others have gone to the bone yard (so to speak).

Charlize Theron ("Snow White and the Huntsman") lost her father when she was 15. That same year she left her native South Africa to become a model in Europe. "My mom entered me in a local modeling contest as a joke with some of my friends who came up with the idea," she says.

"But they needed a parent's signature. So my mom got in on it as well. They entered me in the contest, which I won. There was a burning ambition to be an actress, but it didn't have a name for me. I didn't grow up in a society that really celebrated actors ... So I just always thought it was some great thing that some guy next door got to be in movies. I never thought: 'I want to grow up to be an actor.' But I've been subconsciously acting my entire life."

Wendie Malick ("Hot in Cleveland," "Just Shoot Me") did it the other way round. "I took a detour into modeling. It was kind of on-purpose because I suffered from extreme wanderlust and needed to see the world," she says.

"My grandparents traveled a lot, and I used to get these postcards from them from exotic places and thought, 'Oh, I want to go there. I want to do that.'

"There was no place that didn't sound interesting to me ... My junior year I went aboard and studied in Amsterdam. We landed in Paris and I thought, 'Oh, my God, I've got to come back and live here.' ... I decided to take five years off from acting because I was making $75 a week doing off-off-Broadway and dinner theater in New Jersey, so I was approached by someone from Wilhelmina (modeling agency) and I thought, 'This is my ticket to see the world.' And it was."

She gave it five years. "I had a great ride, I'd saved a bunch of money and got to live in these great places, and it was wonderful, but I thought, 'Now I have to go back and do this thing I know I was designed to do.'"

Sofia Vergara ("Modern Family") remembers she was a 17-year-old at the beach in her native Colombia when she was discovered. "I wasn't a model or anything. I was just a girl at the beach. And they said, 'Can you do this commercial?' I said, 'Yeah, of course.' And I did this Pepsi commercial, and it became huge. Everybody goes: Who's that girl?'

"But I was in Catholic school my last year of high school. I just wanted to finish high school and go to dentist school, which I did for three years. But then things started changing, and you start getting opportunities and getting offers of money and you start following your instinct. And here I am."

Angie Harmon ("Rizzoli & Isles") nabbed her first modeling job when she was still a baby. "It was in a hospital where they teach you how to give your child a bath. They said, 'Let's take the Harmon baby.' And my father went, 'Oh, no.'

"And (I posed in) little car seats, then newspapers and it sort of escalated until I got to that gangly, awkward, huge-buck-teeth phase. So I quit for a while and started back up again when I was about 12 or 13.

"It wasn't something that my parents pushed me into. First of all, because I wasn't pretty all my life. But I just enjoyed it. I think the girls now realize it's a business. I think it's good you realize it's a business. But on the other hand, we had so much fun back in my day. But I think you have a tendency to get wrapped up in, 'Oh, this is fun' but then you realize this is a job and people are paying me and I have to behave and look professional and look good. And I'm supposed to do exactly what they're hiring me for.'

"When I was 12 I looked like I was 18. It was terrifying for my parents. I don't look forward to that with my daughters at all."

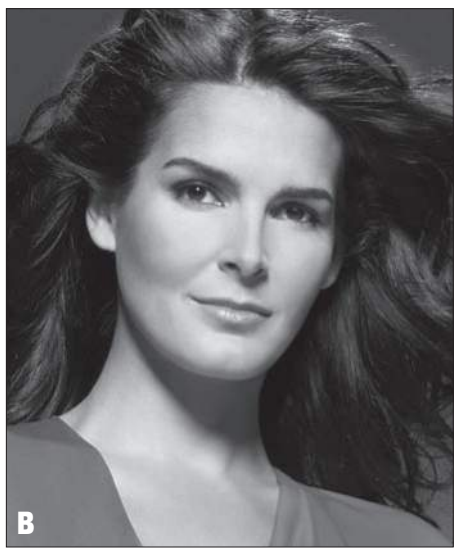
Andie MacDowell ("Jane by Design," "Groundhog Day") was a model for several years and can still be found in L'Oreal ads. But she thinks there was more to her success than just a pretty face.

"To be honest with you, I really don't think I made it on my looks alone by any means. The first commercials I ever did for Calvin Klein I think were done with a sense of humor and personality and comedy. And that's what made them. If you go back and look at them I was kind of chunky. It was all about this character that I played that made it work."

She says she didn't always do the flashiest assignments and she wasn't the kind to grace all the magazine covers. "But I did interesting work," she says. "I worked for Saint Laurent and interesting photographers could see the oddity about me, or something that they liked."

She took a cut in pay to go into acting.

A


B

C

D

E

A: Andie MacDowell, who got her start as a model—and is still modeling for a cosmetic firm—says it wasn't her face that got her the job.
RICK ROWELL/ABC FAMILY/MCT

B: Angie Harmon of "Rizzoli & Isles" began modeling when she was still in diapers.
MCT

C: Charlize Theron left her home in South Africa at 15 to become a model.
MCT

D: Wendie Malick stopped acting for five years to become a model and see the world.
ANDREW SOUTHMAN/ABC/MCT

E: Sofia Vergara of "Modern Family" was discovered in her native Colombia.
BOB D'AMICO/ABC/MCT

'Dark Knight' earns $160.9M in wake of tragedy

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"The Dark Knight Rises" earned a sizeable $160.9 million over the weekend, making it the biggest 2-D opening ever, but falling slightly below expectations following the mass shooting at a Colorado screening of the Batman film.

Warner Bros. said Monday that the final installment of director Christopher Nolan's Batman trilogy earned $160,887,295.

The debut makes "The Dark Knight Rises" the biggest 2-D opening ever ahead of its 2008 predecessor, "The Dark Knight." It also gives the movie the third-largest opening after the 3-D films "The Avengers" with $207.4 million and "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows—Part 2" with $169.2 million.

Despite the impressive $160.9 million opening, "The Dark Knight Rises" fell somewhat below box office expectations going into the weekend, which ranged from $170 million to $200 million.

"Clearly, `The Dark Knight Rises' was on everyone's minds," said Paul Dergarabedian, an analyst for Hollywood.com who specializes in box office. "I think the American public showed they were not going to be sacred away from the movie theater by the actions of a lunatic."

Dergarabedian called the film's opening "extremely impressive given the tragic events that unfolded on Friday."

"Dark Knight Rises" earned $19.1 million alone from IMAX screenings. Tickets for 3-D and IMAX films cost a few more dollars than 2-D screenings, netting extra cash at the box office. Movies released in 3-D typically earn under half of their income in 3-D screenings, sometimes as little as a third.

Sony, Fox, Disney, Paramount, Universal and Lionsgate joined "Dark Knight Rises" distributor Warner Bros. in publicly withholding their usual revenue reports this weekend until Monday. They did so out of respect for the victims and their families after the mass shooting that left 12 dead and 58 wounded at a midnight screening of the movie in Aurora, Colo.

Following behind "Dark Knight Rises" in the No. 2 spot was "Ice Age: Continental Drift," the animated Fox film which dropped 56 percent in its second weekend to $20.4 million, and the Sony superhero reboot "The Amazing Spider-Man," which earned $10.9 million during its third weekend at the box office, in the No. 3 position.

The top 20 movies at U.S. and Canadian theaters Friday through Sunday, followed by distribution studio, gross, number of theater locations, average receipts per location, total gross and number of weeks in release, as compiled Monday by Hollywood.com are:

1. "The Dark Knight Rises," Warner Bros., $160,887,295
2. "Ice Age: Continental Drift," Fox, $20,416,978
3. "The Amazing Spider-Man," Sony, $10,887,111
4. "Ted," Universal, $10,011,310
5. "Brave," Disney, $6,024,987
6. "Magic Mike," Warner Bros., $4,291,432
7. "Savages," Universal, $3,398,880
8. "Tyler Perry's Madea's Witness Protection," Lionsgate, $2,253,074
9. "Moonrise Kingdom," Focus Features, $1,831,471
10. "To Rome With Love," Sony, $1,420,891
11. "Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted," Paramount, $1,350,946
12. "Katy Perry: Part of Me," Paramount, $1,148,494
13. "Beasts of the Southern Wild," Fox Searchlight, $763,443
14. "The Avengers," Disney, $620,411
15. "Snow White & the Huntsman," Universal, $427,405

Cowell's take on Spears, Lovato: 'Mean,' a 'brat'

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Britney Spears and Demi Lovato are the tough cookies on "The X Factor," according to series creator Simon Cowell.

With the new "X Factor" judges at his side Monday, the reliably acerbic Cowell said that Spears is "quite mean" and Lovato is "a brat." But, Cowell added, he's long wanted to work with Spears and said "there's really something likeable" about Lovato.

The pop stars are joining "X Factor" for its second season.

Spears and Lovato replace judges Paula Abdul and Nicole Scherzinger, who left after the show's debut year fell short of the spectacular ratings Cowell forecast. Antonio "L.A." Reid and Cowell will return as judges.

With taping under way in Miami, the "X Factor" panel spoke to a Beverly Hills, Calif., meeting of the Television Critics Association by satellite. Earlier Monday, Fox announced that Cowell's former stomping ground, "American Idol," has hired Mariah Carey as a judge for next year.

Spears was asked why she decided to join "X Factor," which is paying her a reported $15 million.

"I feel like being able to be on a show where you can give back and help people achieve their dream is just really interesting to me. ... It's different from anything I've ever done," she said.

She demurred when asked if she hoped it would boost her record sales.

"It's purely on the fact I love the show," said Spears, who said she'd seen "X Factor" a "couple times" before signing on.

The 19-year-old Lovato was queried about her concerns for younger contestants confronted with fame.

In 2011, the singer-actress entered rehab for what were termed "emotional and physical issues." She said that as a child who faced bullying, she had an eating disorder and later started cutting her wrists to vent her despair.

Lovato takes that issue into consideration as a judge and in regard to her younger sister, Madison, whom she said she worries about but is "doing great." Madison, 10, played the daughter of Eva Longoria's character on ABC's "Desperate Housewives."

But the perils of fame can be overblown, Lovato said.

"It adds some pressures, sometimes it makes the problem a little bit worse. ... But for me, I had been struggling with those issues before," she said. "Unless you're in a good place when you start working, I think it's kind of it's inevitable for these things will happen."

AP

In this Sept. 24, 2011 file photo, singer Britney Spears performs on a stage during a concert in Moscow, Russia, during her European tour.

No arrests after fight at Katherine Jackson's home

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Los Angeles sheriff's deputies are investigating a family disturbance and possible battery at the home of Michael Jackson's mother.

Sheriff's spokesman Steve Whitmore says no one was arrested after deputies were called to Katherine Jackson's home around 1:10 p.m. Monday. He says deputies determined there was a physical altercation between two people and the case remains under investigation as a possible battery.

Whitmore declined to say who was involved or whether the incident included Jackson's three young children, who live with their grandmother in Calabasas, Calif.

The incident is the latest drama for the Jackson family. A relative reported Katherine Jackson missing Saturday, but authorities located her with other family members in Arizona.

Whitmore says the case of Katherine Jackson's reported disappearance has been closed.

Rock Hall to honor Chuck Berry with series in Oct.

NEW YORK (AP)—One of rock's pioneers will be celebrated by the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame this fall.

Chuck Berry will be honored by the hall as part of its American Music Masters series.

Berry was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1986. In October, the icon will be the subject of a week-long celebration by the hall and Case Western Reserve University. It kicks off Oct. 22 and ends with an all-star tribute concert on Oct 27. Performers have yet to be announced, though Berry is set to take the stage.

In a statement released Tuesday, 82-year-old Berry said he is "looking forward to reelin' and rockin' in Cleveland."

Past honorees include Aretha Franklin, Janis Joplin and Woody Guthrie.

Boldly go: Patrick Stewart joins Olympic torch run

LONDON (AP)—The Olympic flame has boldly gone to Wimbledon.

Actor Patrick Stewart, best known as Captain Jean-Luc Picard in "Star Trek: The Next Generation," took a turn on the torch relay Monday.

Before he did, tennis stars Andy Murray and Venus Williams posed with the flame on Center Court at Wimbledon in southwest London.

Murray said his preparations for the Olympic games have left him little time to dwell on his Wimbledon defeat to Roger Federer just over two weeks ago.

"You don't look back, you try and look forward," he said. "I'm sure the atmosphere is going to be great and I'll need all the support I can get."

The flame was also scheduled to pass through the set of the long-running British soap opera "EastEnders."

The torch relay is on its final leg of a 70-day journey, touring the neighborhoods of host city London before being taken to the Olympic Stadium for Friday's opening ceremony.

On Sunday, the torch made a spectacular visit, traveling on the London Eye over the British capital.

The torch has visited the Channel Islands, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland and gone past national landmarks like Stonehenge and Mount Snowdon.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Cybill Shepherd engaged to marry for third time

NEW YORK (AP)—Actress Cybill Shepherd is hoping the third time's the charm. The 62-year-old's publicist confirms Shepherd is planning to marry a former jeweler-turned-psychologist named Andrei Nikolajevic. News of the engagement was first reported by the Daily News in New York. Shepherd was previously married to David Ford and Bruce Oppenheim and has three children from those relationships. In an interview in March 2012 with The Associated Press for her TV show "The Client List," Shepherd confirmed she had a boyfriend and said they "managed to stay under the radar." She said she was "very happy" with her life.

American Idol to host small-town tryouts

HELENA, Mont. (AP)—"American Idol" plans stops in some smaller cities in search of singing talent for its 12th season. The FOX television show's website says the new "Small Town Audition Bus Tour" is scheduled to make stops in Idaho Falls, Idaho; Billings, Mont.; and Casper, Wyo., as part of a 10-city tour that starts next month. The dates, times and locations are to be announced. Small town auditions also are scheduled in Iowa, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, Kansas and Colorado. The show also is taking nominations for people who may not think of trying out, and it's accepting online video submissions for two weeks, starting Aug. 1.

Texting with friends leads girl into chat room trouble

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 12-year-old girl and I hope you will print this because it's about something important. I have an iPod Touch. My friends and I wanted to text, so I asked my mom if I could download a program to talk to my friends. She said it was OK.

I really like "The Hunger Games," so I went into a "Hunger Games" chat room and started talking with some boys there. The next thing I knew there were three men texting me, asking me questions about sex and asking for pictures. (It started with them asking if I was fat, and when I said no, I was asked to send a picture of me in a bathing suit to prove it.) Then they wanted me to send some without the top. I felt really pressured.

I got so scared I couldn't sleep, so I had to tell my mom. She helped me delete my account and told me it was dangerous, but she always loves me. It was hard for me to tell her because I was scared she was going to be mad.

I want your readers to know this can happen and there are chat room apps for iPods. I'm smart. I get good grades in school, but these guys almost tricked me into doing something I didn't want to do. I still have trouble sleeping because I'm afraid one of them will see me on the street and do something to me. What should I do?

TERRIFIED FROM TEXTING

DEAR TERRIFIED: I'm glad you took the time to write. You are a very lucky girl. You are fortunate to have a good relationship with your mother and that you could go to her right away when you realized you were in over your head.

Remember, once something is on the Web it's there for good. You are intelligent enough that things didn't progress any further.

Thank you for wanting to warn other young people about your experience. Adults can lecture about the dangers of communicating with strangers on the Internet, but it's easy to tune them out. It's also easy to forget that the same rules apply in the virtual world as apply in the real world. If something makes you uncomfortable, listen to your gut and leave the area.

I hope other young women will learn from what happened to you and recognize how careful they must be in chat rooms because as your experience illustrates, not everyone is who they pretend to be.

Bottom line: If anyone wants to text or chat and things progress in a way that makes you uncomfortable, it's time to carefully consider whether to proceed or not. Immediately show the text or chat to someone (a parent or an older, more knowledgeable friend) and ask for an opinion, Remember, you have the ability to block the person at any time. Do not let anyone—whether you know him or her or not—force you to do ANYTHING.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I am a healthy, active older man who is in love with a woman my age. Coincidentally, we are in-laws. Her husband and my wife are both deceased. Having known each other for many years, we are very close and have found renewed happiness with each other. We are in love.

Our adult children tell us we are not being rational. Our peers see nothing wrong with it. Do we ignore our children's advice and seek happiness together for the next few years? Please tell me something that makes sense.

CONFUSED RETIRED ENGINEER

DEAR CONFUSED: You have raised your kids and buried your wife. You deserve to be happy. What makes sense is you and this lady you have known for years being happily together. Your children's attitude is what's irrational.

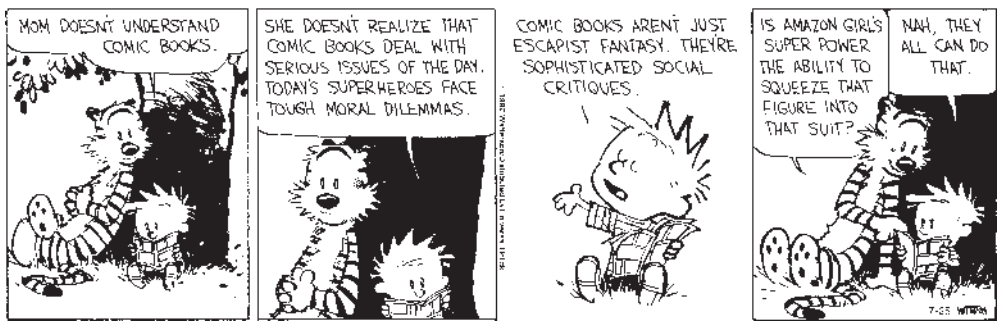
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

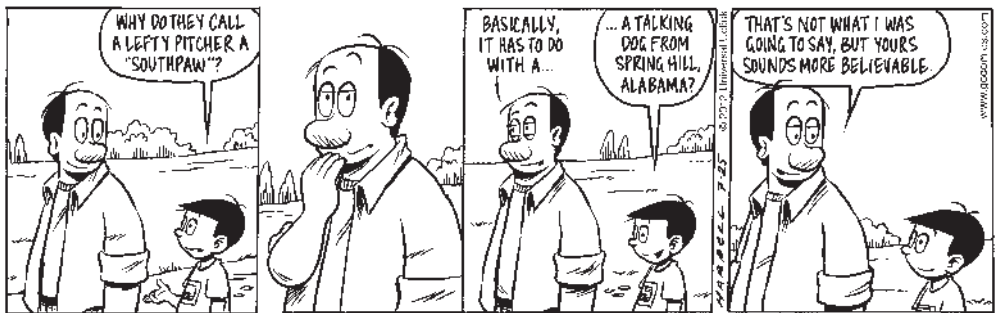

MOM DOESN'T UNDERSTAND COMIC BOOKS.
SHE DOESN'T REALIZE THAT COMIC BOOKS DEAL WITH SERIOUS ISSUES OF THE DAY. TODAY'S SUPERHEROES FACE TOUGH MORAL DILEMMAS.
COMIC BOOKS AREN'T JUST ESCAPIST FANTASY. THEY'RE SOPHISTICATED SOCIAL CRITIQUES.
IS AMAZON GIRL'S SUPER POWER THE ABILITY TO SQUEEZE THAT FIGURE INTO THAT SUIT?
NAH, THEY ALL CAN DO THAT.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

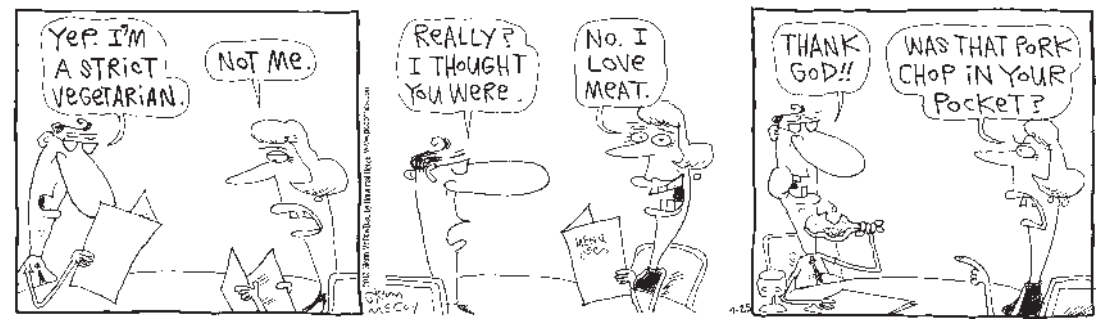
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


WHY DO THEY CALL A LEFTY PITCHER A "SOUTHPAW"?
BASICALLY, IT HAS TO DO WITH A...
... A TALKING DOG FROM SPRING HILL, ALABAMA?
THAT'S NOT WHAT I WAS GOING TO SAY, BUT YOURS SOUNDS MORE BELIEVABLE.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Legislation
4 Cooking-spray brand
7 Hint
8 Overseas money
10 Plant life
11 Psychological injury
13 Easy task comparison
16 Toss in
17 Grant's successor
18 Letter after pi
19 Phone inventor
20 Mulligan, e.g.
21 Dodge
23 Magnetic induction unit
25 Unescorted
26 Cartoonist Goldberg
27 Branch
28 Surmise
30 Macabre author
33 Easy task comparison
36 Central German city
37 Soap opera extra, often
38 Beat
39 Advertising award
40 Dog's doc
41 Golfer Ernie

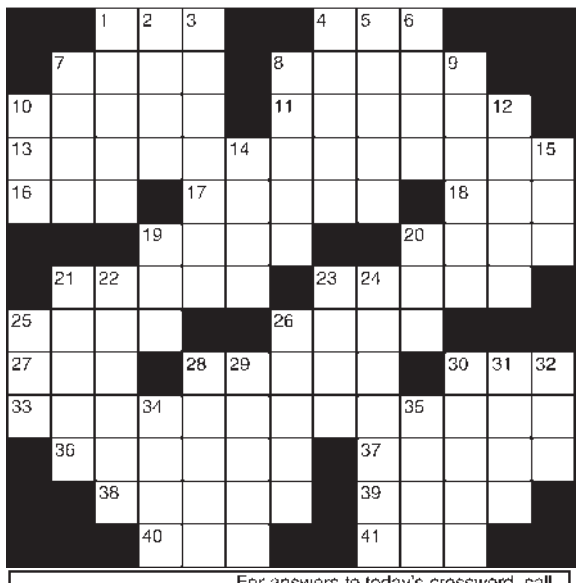
DOWN

1 Frank — Wright
2 Emanation
3 Newscast segment
4 Blender setting
5 Large part of Al-Jazeera's audience
6 Small grimace
7 Dressed (in)
8 — alcohol
9 Stings
10 Rx watchdog org.
12 Liniment targets
14 Converse
15 Explanation
19 Huge
20 Take to court
21 Sucker
22 Shakespeare title role
23 Spew like Old Faithful
24 "Perfect attendance" spoiler
25 Witnessed
26 So old it's new again
28 Greedy kid's demand
29 Inappropriate
30 Hilton heiress
31 Roughly
32 — out a living
34 Ukraine's capital
35 Yank

Solution time: 21 mins.

L	A	N	C		C	W	E		S	W	I	M
I	R	O	N		M	A	P		K	I	T	E
M	I	S	C		C	L	A	R	I	N	E	T
B	A	Y	O	N	E	T		A	T	O	M	S
			R	U	E		N	Y	C			
L	I	N	E	N		F	I	S	H	N	E	T
A	R	E			F	A	X			O	R	R
C	A	B	I	N	E	T		E	S	S	A	Y
			N	E	W		H	A	M			
P	A	S	H	A		C	O	R	O	N	E	T
I	N	T	E	R	N	E	T		K	I	T	H
T	O	U	R		O	D	E		E	S	A	U
A	N	N	E		G	E	L		D	I	S	S

Yesterday's answer 7-25



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Michael Welch, 25; James Lafferty, 27; Matt LeBlanc, 45; Illeana Douglas, 47.

Happy Birthday: Don't lose sight of what's important to you. Strive for truth, justice and fair play. How you treat others will determine how far you get personally and professionally. A change in your environment or in the way you do things will motivate you. Love and romance will bring unexpected changes. Your numbers are 2, 9, 20, 25, 31, 38, 46.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Don't give in to your insecurities. Trust your judgment, and don't shy away from speaking your mind or asking questions you need answered in order to keep moving forward. A past relationship can help you advance now. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Size up your situation before you take a leap in a direction that may not be good for you. Broaden your outlook through experience or research so you know exactly what you are up against before you proceed. Don't rely on others. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Your charm and fun-loving approach to life will entice the people you come into contact with. A last-minute change of plans will be to your benefit. Greater commitment to someone you admire will lead to personal success. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): One step forward, three steps back. Try not to ruffle feathers or cause trouble. Keeping things running along smoothly should be your goal. Now is not the time to disagree or to let your emotions lead to a stubborn standoff. ✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): You've got all the right moves. Take a chance and you will find a pathway to success. Romance, adventure and a change of status, coupled with running into someone from your past or a love-at-first-sight encounter, is apparent. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): You must find a solution to a problem that is holding you back. Exploring and discussing your options with someone you trust can help you find a way to reduce stress or financial pressure. Don't let a relationship cost you. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Make a move that has the potential to change your professional direction. What you learn or discover now will help you choose between something you've always wanted to do and your current position. Love and romance will flourish. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Find out the facts firsthand. Someone may keep a secret from you concerning money or health issues. Don't be too quick to offer help, support or cash when you should be more concerned with saving for unexpected expenses. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): It all boils down to give-and-take. You can achieve your goals if you are willing to give something up in return. Follow your heart and strive to be fair, and in the end you will get everything you deserve and more. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Expect to face a difficult situation. Be careful what you divulge. Don't trust anyone to do a job that requires your personal attention. Overspending or making unrealistic promises will be your demise. ✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Choose your direction and head that way without any reservations. Feeling confident that you have made the right choice will lead to a successful venture. Love is on the rise. Do your best to put aside time for someone special. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You will be held responsible for your actions. Be sure to make wise choices. Avoid a manipulative individual looking for advancement at your expense. Pending legal matters will not pan out as expected. Focus on alternative action. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are creative, intelligent and quick-witted. You are adaptable and adventuresome.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

			3					
		8		2				
		9				5		
		6		2		3		
	9	3				4	1	
8	1	5		4		6	7	2
		7				9		
	3	1	5		7	2	8	
4	6			1			5	3

Difficulty Level ★★★ 7/25

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4	8	2	9	3	7	1	5	6
6	5	1	2	8	4	7	3	9
9	3	7	5	1	6	4	2	8
1	2	3	6	7	9	8	4	5
8	6	5	1	4	3	2	9	7
7	4	9	8	2	5	3	6	1
2	7	6	3	9	8	5	1	4
5	1	4	7	6	2	9	8	3
3	9	8	4	5	1	6	7	2

Difficulty Level ★★ 7/25

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

BINAURAL BEATS Solution: 10 letters

S	C	R	O	O	M	I	N	T	E	R	P	R	E	T
O	I	I	D	I	M	E	N	S	I	O	N	S	F	R
U	N	G	S	N	O	I	S	E	R	R	H	E	A	R
R	O	H	N	U	E	H	E	H	E	A	L	T	H	O
C	I	Ⓣ	E	A	M	S	Y	T	R	A	E	E	A	S
E	T	Ⓞ	A	O	L	T	T	M	C	G	N	S	C	C
S	C	Ⓝ	V	U	H	A	O	I	N	V	Y	U	Y	I
N	E	Ⓔ	P	M	P	N	G	I	I	M	E	C	D	L
O	R	M	I	P	I	O	S	R	M	S	N	O	A	L
P	I	C	H	O	L	S	O	E	A	E	O	F	M	A
S	D	T	U	O	E	N	T	I	U	N	H	L	P	T
E	O	S	R	C	M	R	I	Q	D	E	G	E	L	I
R	N	U	O	E	I	I	E	A	R	U	E	E	I	O
E	E	R	N	C	L	R	N	T	R	L	A	F	F	N
N	P	T	S	D	F	A	Z	D	S	B	C	N	Y	S

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Yesterday's Answer: Nervous

The NEW Treasury (can be ordered by sending a check or money order for $15.00 plus $3.00 postage and handling ($4.65 total U.S. funds) for the first book, $10.00 plus postage and handling for each additional book to Ann Wedeking, 1750 Main St., Kansas City, KS 66103 or call toll free 1-800-642-3486. Credit card and check orders cannot be accepted. Allow 20 to 30 days for delivery.)

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(1) Maintenance Manager
Qualifications: Minimum 6 years work experience as Manager of engineering department, preferably in a hotel. Assists the Chief Engineer in ensuring the efficient and economic operation of the engineering department in support of all other operating departments, supplying services as required to the entire operation, and maintaining equipment, building and grounds in optimum condition. Good problem solving, administrative and interpersonal skills are required. Must be able to work "on-call" seven (7) days a week, including holidays.

Applications may be obtained from Fiesta Resort's security office located on the South Wing. Closing date for applications to be submitted and considered is July 28th.

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(1) ELECTRICIAN

Qualifications: Minimum of 5 years work experience and training. High school graduate or equivalent. Able to service, repair, calibrate, regulate, fine-tune or test machines, devices and equipment that operate primarily on electrical or electronic principles. Must to work in a flexible way that allows for changes in assignments and priorities depending upon identified needs of the department.

Interested applicants may email resume to joe_ada@saipan-grandhotel.com. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

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Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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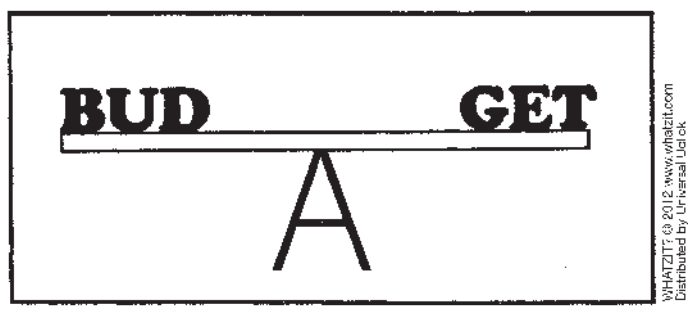
Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



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Find today's solution in classified section

NCAA hopes Penn State penalties send message

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—Slow. Toothless. Tone deaf to the real problems in college sports.

The NCAA has heard such criticisms for years.

In punishing the Penn State football program with an unprecedented series of sanctions, President Mark Emmert said he hopes the NCAA has served notice that a win-at-all-costs mentality in major college football won't be tolerated.

This has been a theme for the former University of Washington president since he got the job in October 2010 and scandal after scandal hit the headlines, from Auburn to Miami and State College, Pa.

Yet the NCAA does not plan to overhaul its procedures for handling potential infractions. Emmert made it clear that the $60 million fine, four-year bowl ban, scholarship reductions and more were put together largely by himself and a handful of NCAA leaders because Penn State and serial child molester Jerry Sandusky presented a unique situation.

In other words, few can imagine anything like this happening again.

"This is a statement about this case," Emmert said.

There was no need for the NCAA to investigate what rules were broken, a process that can take months or years. Penn State handed over the results of its investigation by former FBI Director Louis Freeh and didn't dispute the facts. Emmert said the decision to bypass the infractions committee and let the NCAA Executive Committee and its Division I Board of Directors decide on the penalties was not a sign of a change in the way future proceedings will go, but a sign that no investigation was necessary.

AP

NCAA President Mark Emmert gestures during a news conference in Indianapolis, Monday, July 23, 2012. The NCAA has slammed Penn State with an unprecedented series of penalties, including a $60 million fine and the loss of all coach Joe Paterno's victories from 1998-2011, in the wake of the Jerry Sandusky child sex abuse scandal.

"This was just a singular case that we all hope we don't face again," he said.

Joe Paterno's family criticized the NCAA and Penn State after the sanctions were announced.

"The NCAA has now become the latest party to accept the report as the final word on the Sandusky scandal," the family said. "That the president, the athletic director and the Board of Trustees accepted this unprecedented action by the NCAA without requiring a full due process hearing before the Committee on Infractions is an abdication of their responsibilities and a breach of their fiduciary duties to the University and the 500,000 alumni."

In Dallas, former Stanford athletic director and new Big 12 Conference Commissioner Bob Bowlsby also wondered about whether the college sports governing body should be stepping into a criminal matter.

"I don't know that it is absolutely clear on what basis this becomes an NCAA issue," he said at football media days. "Having said that, there are certainly elements of our constitution and bylaws that go right to the heart of ethics, and clearly there are some ethical issues here. Perhaps the lesson that will be taken away from it is that things can get pretty far afield when there are people running the show that don't ever get frank feedback and don't ever have anybody push back against them in terms of re-centering their decision processes."

North Carolina State coach Tom O'Brien said the NCAA had effectively made Penn State a "I-AA school" by reducing the number of scholarships.

"We're in a new era, obviously, and a new stage," he said of the NCAA. "One of the things the NCAA did when they came to our meetings was that they showed what penalties in the past were and what penalties were going to be in the future, and the penalties in the future were multiple times what the penalties in the past were."

Too much so, according to some Penn State alumni.

"It's ludicrous. It's punishing all the wrong people," said Brad Benson, a former Penn State and New York Giants player. ""The NCAA is way out of line with this. It's an overreaction. It's a knee-jerk reaction. I think the statue should have come down. I'm for it. They can take the games, take the wins away. That's fine. There's no future in the past anyway. But to punish the university now? How does this work for the new coach? What's fair about this for him? It's absolutely crazy."

He added: "This is the problem when the NCAA tries to become part of the judicial system. This should have been handled by the courts."

Emmert said the NCAA executive committee has taken action on its own previously when it decided it wouldn't award predetermined championships such as basketball regionals to South Carolina because of an NAACP boycott over a Confederate flag on the statehouse grounds and when it decided it would ban schools with American Indian mascots and images it considered "hostile and abusive" from postseason play pending name changes.

Emmert hopes the case will serve as a warning to other NCAA members.

"One of the grave dangers stemming from our love of sports is that the sports themselves can become too big to fail, indeed, too big to even challenge," Emmert said. "The result can be an erosion of academic values that are replaced by the value of hero worship and winning at all costs. All involved in intercollegiate athletics must be watchful that programs and individuals do not overwhelm the values of higher education."

Suzuki singles in Yankees debut, 4-1 win over M's

SEATTLE (AP)—Ichiro Suzuki switched teams in Seattle after a momentous trade and singled his first time up with the New York Yankees during their 4-1 victory over the Mariners on Monday.

In a surprising deal completed about 3 1/2 hours before the game, Seattle sent Suzuki to the Yankees for a pair of young pitchers.

Just like that, Suzuki went from last place in the American League West to first in the AL East. And he helped New York beat his former club by going 1 for 4 with his 16th stolen base.

Hiroki Kuroda (10-7) allowed three hits over seven sharp innings to help the Yankees bounce back from a four-game sweep in Oakland.

White Sox 7, Twins 4

In Chicago, Adam Dunn hit his major league-leading 29th homer and Gavin Floyd pitched six innings after coming off the disabled list as the Chicago White Sox ended a five-game losing streak with a 7-4 win over the Minnesota Twins on Monday night.

Paul Konerko and Alex Rios also homered off Twins left-hander Francisco Liriano (3-10) to help the White Sox win in their first home game following a 3-7 road trip after the All-Star break that knocked them out of first place in the AL Central.

Rangers 9, Red Sox 1

In Arlington, Texas, Scott Feldman, starting after Roy Oswalt was scratched with back tightness, threw seven strong innings to lead Texas to a victory over Boston.

Feldman (4-6) won his fourth straight decision and pitched his longest outing since throwing eight innings on June 2, 2010. He gave up one earned run and seven hits with five strikeouts.

Just before the game started, it was learned Texas starting pitcher Colby Lewis will miss the rest of the season because of a torn flexor tendon in his right elbow.

Indians 3, Orioles 1

In Cleveland, Justin Masterson, backed by three double plays, pitched 7 1-3 strong innings to help Cleveland beat Baltimore and avoid a four-game sweep.

Masterson (7-8) struck out six as Cleveland broke a four-game losing streak. The right-hander gave up only one run and seven hits, improving to 5-2 over his last eight starts.

Choo Shin-soo put the Indians ahead 2-0 with a two-run homer in the third inning off Tommy Hunter (4-5).

Angels 6, Royals 3

In Anaheim, California, pinch-hitter Kendrys Morales delivered a rare three-run single in the eighth inning, helping the Angels beat the Royals.

Alberto Callaspo started the tie-breaking rally with a two-out single against reliever Greg Holland (4-3). Maicer Izturis bounced a double over the head of first baseman Eric Hosmer and down the line.

Nationals 8, Mets 2

In New York, Bryce Harper homered in his first at bat in New York, then hit a tiebreaking single to key a six-run burst in the 10th inning Monday that sent the Washington Nationals over the Mets 8-2.

Shortstop Ruben Tejada's error on a potential double-play ball set up the big 10th. Ryan Zimmerman hit a three-run double and Michael Morse added a two-run homer as the NL East-leading Nationals broke away.

Marlins 2, Braves 1

In Miami, Josh Johnson pitched six scoreless innings and Emilio Bonifacio homered to lead Miami over Atlanta.

Four relievers combined to pitch the final three innings for the Marlins. Steve Cishek earned his third save to help Miami snap a five-game losing streak.

Johnson (6-7) retired his first 14 batters before Brian McCann singled in the fifth. Johnson struck out nine, allowed one hit and did not walk a batter.

Cubs 2, Pirates 0

In Pittsburgh, Jeff Samardzija gave up one hit over eight innings and Alfonso Soriano hit two run-scoring doubles as Chicago blanked Pittsburgh.

Samardzija allowed only a fourth-inning infield single to Andrew McCutchen, the leading hitter in the majors with a .373 average. The ball ricocheted off Samardzija.

Soriano provided two big hits, scoring Starlin Castro both times, as Chicago ended its 28-inning scoreless streak that stretched to the second inning of last Friday's game at St. Louis.

Phillies 7, Brewers 6

In Philadelphia, Ty Wigginton hit a sacrifice fly to cap a four-run rally in the ninth inning against Francisco Rodriguez that lifted Philadelphia over Milwaukee.

The Phillies were 0-42 when trailing after eight innings before coming back against Rodriguez (2-5), who replaced John Axford as the closer last week.

Ryan Howard hit a two-run single on a 0-2 pitch in the ninth and Carlos Ruiz followed with an RBI single.

Reds 8, Astros 3

In Houston, Ryan Ludwick and Todd Frazier had three hits and two RBIs each, and Brandon Phillips also had three to lead Cincinnati past Houston.

Ludwick connected on an RBI double in Cincinnati's two-run third inning and added a run with a single in the eighth. Frazier singled in a run in the first and had an RBI double in the eighth.

Phillips has 12 hits and nine RBIs in the eight games since moving to the third spot in the order when Joey Votto went on the disabled list.

Dodgers 5, Cardinals 3

In St. Louis, Chad Billingsley returned from the disabled list with a strong outing that ended a five-start losing streak, while Luis Cruz hit a three-run homer as Los Angeles won its fifth straight.

Cruz, recalled July 2 to replaced injured shortstop Dee Gordon, has two career homers and 12 RBIs. Eight of his 14 hits are for extra bases. His three-run shot in the second gave the Dodgers the early jump in their eighth straight win over St. Louis dating to April 17, 2011.

Kenley Jansen struck out two in a perfect ninth for his 19th save in 24 chances.

Diamondbacks 6, Rockies 3

In Phoenix, Ian Kennedy had a bases-clearing triple and scattered five hits over eight innings to lead Arizona over Colorado.

Paul Goldschmidt homered and Willie Bloomquist added an RBI double for the Diamondbacks, who have won a season-high seven straight home games and five of six overall.

Giants 7, Rockies 1

In San Francisco, Buster Posey hit a three-run homer and Ryan Vogelsong won for the first time in nearly a month as San Francisco opened its longest homestand of the season.

Ryan Theriot and Melky Cabrera both had three hits for the Giants, who improved to 8-2 since the All-Star break.

Yasmani Grandal had two hits for San Diego, which has lost five of seven games to San Francisco this season.

Olympic opener will be spectacular

LONDON (AP)—The London Olympics opening ceremony will be a grand spectacle - but will it be a surprise?

In a word, no.

Director Danny Boyle wants the details to stay secret and games chief Sebastian Coe has pleaded for insiders to stop leaking details of the extravaganza. But in the age of camera phones and social media, with 10,000 performers in the ceremony, thousands of Olympic security and staff and more than 10,000 journalists already at the Olympic Park, not much can be kept out of the public domain.

"Part of the modern world means you can't really do that," Boyle acknowledged about keeping secrets as he showed journalists a mock-up of the set for the opening scene of the ceremony, weeks before the event.

So, a spoiler alert: Stop reading now if you want Friday's opening ceremony to be a surprise. Stop, stop, stop.

But if you are as irresistibly curious as the rest of us, well, prepare for everything from James Bond to Lord Voldemort to a spoonful of sugar.

Boyle has revealed only selected details about the show, But since the performers started rehearsals in June at the Olympic Stadium - and an army of journalists started arriving to cover the July 27-Aug. 12 games—a trickle of details about the 27 million pound ($42 million) opening ceremony has become a torrent.

The leaks became too much for Coe, who tweeted: "Share the frustration of volunteer performers and the public at Opening Ceremony being unofficially trailed. Let's (hash)savethesurprise."

His imploring hashtag fell on deaf ears. Still more information emerged.

So what do we know?

The ceremony's theme is "Isles of Wonder," inspired by William Shakespeare's play about shipwrecked castaways, "The Tempest." An actor is due to recite Caliban's speech, the one that runs "Be not afeard; the isle is full of noises." Mark Rylance, who had been due to perform the lines, pulled out after the death of his stepdaughter. Kenneth Branagh is rumored to be his replacement.

AP

Ballet dancers perform on stage during the opening ceremony of the International Olympic Committee session in central London's Royal Opera House, Monday, July 23, 2012.

Despite Boyle's enchanted-island inspiration, few expect the man who depicted Scottish heroin addicts in "Trainspotting" and Indian slum dwellers in "Slumdog Millionaire" to deliver a sanitized image of Britain.

It sounds more like Isles of Wonder and Woe—with a big dash of British whimsy thrown in.

Boyle has said the show is "trying to show the best of us, but we're also trying to show many, many different things about our country."

The ceremony will open at 9 p.m. with the sound of a 27-ton bell—the largest harmonically tuned bell in the world—forged at London's 442-year-old Whitechapel Bell Foundry, which made London's Big Ben and Philadelphia's Liberty Bell.

A prerecorded segment has been filmed inside Buckingham Palace, reportedly involving Queen Elizabeth II and Daniel Craig as secret agent James Bond. If rumor is to be believed, a stuntman dressed as 007 will parachute into the stadium to start the show.

The opening sequence will evoke a pastoral idyll, the "green and pleasant land" described in William Blake's poem "Jerusalem," which has been set to music and is regarded as England's unofficial national anthem. There's a meadow, livestock, a farmer plowing his field, a cricket match—and, in a nod to Britain's plethora of rural summer music festivals, a mosh pit.

Boyle hasn't disclosed what comes next, but has said the ceremony will depict Britain's past, present and future for a global television audience estimated at 1 billion. In addition to the athletes and performers, some 60,000 spectators will be in the stadium, including political leaders from around the world. U.S. first lady Michelle Obama and her daughters and a sprinkling of European and celebrity royalty will be among those attending.

Aerial photographs of the set for the second section of the show depict dark buildings and smokestacks with the River Thames running through it. This is the other side of the country described in "Jerusalem" - a land of "dark satanic mills."

A third act will tackle the regeneration of east London, where the Olympics are taking place, as parkland and a creative heartland, home to many artists, designers and Internet startups.

There will be vignettes drawing on British history—Boyle's people-power version of it—including Depression-era jobless protesters and nurses performing a tribute to the National Health Service, founded in 1948 to provide free health care for all Britons and now a much fought-over national institution.

Performers dressed as miners and factory workers have also been seen going into the stadium, and one set piece is a model of the Empire Windrush, a ship that brought hundreds of Caribbean migrants to Britain in 1948.

According to the Sunday Times, one section will feature characters from children's fiction classics including "Alice in Wonderland" and "Peter Pan"—and a showdown between Voldemort, the villain of J.K. Rowling's "Harry Potter" books, and a horde of flying magical nannies based on Mary Poppins.

Boyle has stressed that the ceremony is not a concert—"the real stars are the athletes"—but music will play a key role, with musical direction by electronic duo Underworld, who have worked with Boyle since his 1996 movie "Trainspotting."

Music heard coming from the stadium in recent days ranges from "Jerusalem"—of course—to songs by The Beatles, The Who, the Sex Pistols, and Vangelis' theme from "Chariots of Fire."

There are also songs by newer acts, including Dizzee Rascal and Tinie Tempah, two homegrown stars forged in the gritty London environment that Boyle is celebrating.

The final act will be former Beatle Paul McCartney—due to lead the audience in a sing-along of "Hey Jude," with thousands of voices urging "take a sad song and make it better."

Munich victims honored at athletes village

LONDON (AP)—IOC President Jacques Rogge paid tribute Monday to the 11 Israeli athletes and coaches killed in Munich 40 years ago, leading a solemn minute of silence in the athletes village.

It was the first time the IOC has honored the slain Israelis in a ceremony inside an Olympic village.

Rogge has repeatedly rebuffed calls to hold a moment of silence during Friday's opening ceremony of the London Games. He said Saturday the opening was not the appropriate place to remember the Israeli team members killed by Palestinian gunmen at the 1972 Munich Olympics.

On Monday, Rogge chose a different venue and occasion to hold a special observance.

"I would like to start today's ceremony by honoring the memory of the 11 Israeli Olympians who shared the ideals that have brought us together in this beautiful Olympic Village," Rogge said. "The 11 victims of the Munich tragedy believed in that vision.

"They came to Munich in the spirit of peace and solidarity. We owe it to them to keep the spirit alive and to remember them."

Rogge bowed his head as a crowd of about 100 people—IOC executive board members, dignitaries and Olympic athletes and officials—stood in silence for a minute.

"As the events of 40 years ago remind us, sport is not immune from and cannot cure all the ills of the world," Rogge said.

Rogge spoke from an outdoor stage during a ceremony promoting the Olympic Truce, a U.N.-backed initiative calling on warring parties around the world to end hostilities during the period of the games. Rogge and other officials signed the "truce wall" after the event.

Rogge and the International Olympic Committee have come under pressure from Jewish groups and politicians in the United States, Israel and Germany to honor the Munich victims during the opening ceremony.

"We feel that the opening ceremony is an atmosphere that is not fit to remember such a tragic incident," Rogge said Saturday.

Rogge and the IOC will also honor the slain Israelis at a private reception in London during the games on Aug. 6. The IOC will also take part in a ceremony in Germany on the anniversary of the attack on Sept. 5 at the military airfield of Furstenfeldbruck where most of the Israelis died.

During the second week of the Munich Games, eight members of the Black September militant group penetrated the laxly secured Olympic Village and took Israeli team members hostage. A day later, all 11 were dead. German police killed five of the eight assassins during a failed rescue attempt.

Still, Monday's tribute did not fully satisfy families and advocates for the victims.

Ankie Spitzer, whose husband Andre coached the Israel fencing team in 1972, said in a statement that Rogge's "private moment" was just a "rehearsal" for what they expected of him on Friday.

US *men hold off Argentina in basketball exhibition*

BARCELONA, Spain (AP)—Dressed like the Dream Team, tested like its predecessor never was.

The U.S. Olympic men's basketball team held on for an 86-80 exhibition victory over Argentina on Sunday, insisting it didn't expect an easy game and not believing there's benefit to one, anyway.

"I love it. You hate to breeze through exhibition games and then you get into London, and then you start getting competitive," U.S. forward LeBron James said. "So we have a very good team. It doesn't matter about how many points you win by, you just want to play well and get better that night, and I feel like we got better tonight."

Kevin Durant scored 27 points for the Americans, who wore the throwback uniforms of the 1992 Dream Team for their return to Barcelona. They looked like the Hall of Fame squad during a superb opening 10 minutes, but their lead was down to four with 2:50 left after Manu Ginobili's three-point play.

Durant and Chris Paul then hit big 3-pointers as the Americans won after being pushed for the second time in their four exhibition games. Kobe Bryant added 18 points and James had 15 for the U.S., which beat Brazil 80-69 in a similarly rugged game last week in Washington.

"It's tough. Argentina's a very good team, very tough-minded," Bryant said. "They continue to play hard and for us it was a big challenge to try to put the game away, we could just never do it."

Ginobili scored 23 points, Carlos Delfino had 15 and Luis Scola 14 for Argentina.

Back in Barcelona, where the Dream Team won gold 20 years earlier in historic and overwhelmingly easy fashion, the U.S. players wore that team's throwback uniforms. The white uniforms with red and blue along the side and USA in the middle also had the letters "CD" in gold on the left shoulder in honor of Chuck Daly, the Dream Team coach who died in 2009.

"Those uniforms was nice," said Carmelo Anthony, wearing the No. 15 of Magic Johnson. "In the locker room, everybody was taking pictures with the uniforms. It just brings back so many memories from back then in '92."

Otherwise, the Americans are more interested in building for London than reflecting too much on the past. Coach Mike Krzyzewski, a Dream Team assistant, made that clear Saturday at practice when he was asked about the old days.

Easy victories in Docomo summer caging

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Three teams walked away with double-digit winning margins in the 2012 Docomo Pacific Youth Summer Basketball League at the Garapan Basketball Court.

In the U17 division game last Monday, IT&E Rollers A defeated the MJC Enterprises Sixers, 52-27, while Friday's matches in the U25 category saw R-Rebels beating the Peacemakers, 45-30, and the Saints downing the Rollers, 39-28.

IT&E Rollers A duo Jeron Ano and James Lynx teamed up for 15 points in the first half to help secure a 21-16 lead at midpoint.

Then in the second half, Ano was still at it, while Irvyn Malonzo delivered 6 points, and they received support from four others to cruise to the win.

Ano led all scorers with 14 points.

The IT&E Rollers A-MJC Enterprises Sixers tiff was the lone game played last Monday, as Proa won via forfeit over Docomo Red in the opener.

In the U25 division's first game, the R-Rebels were deadlocked with the Peacemakers at 19-all after the opening 16 minutes before making a huge defensive stand in the payoff period for the win.

R-Rebels' Ben Lisua and Peacemakers' Luis Reyes led their respective squads with six points apiece in the first frame. The R-Rebels then contained their rivals to just 11 points in the second half en route to a stout victory.

Lisua led the charge with nine markers in the clutch and finished atop the scoring chart with 16, almost matching Peacemakers' Won Joo Jung and Juan Camacho's combined scores of 17. Trevor Ogumoro provided 6 late points for the R-Rebels, who also got contributions from three other players.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

MJC Enterprise Sixers' Auden Ngeskebei pulls up for a jumper against IT&E Rollers A defenders during their U17 game in Docomo summer caging last Monday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

In the second matchup, Donovan Brennan and Ben Iglesias hooked for 13 checks in the first period for the Saints'slim 19-17 edge at halftime.

The Rollers buried three three-pointers to keep the match close at intermission, but could not get their shots falling in the payoff period. The Rollers were limited to 11 points in the final canto, as the Saints trotted to the easy win.

Brennan and Luizi Reyes came away with four points each in the second half for a balance offense. Brennan led the Saints with 11 points, while six others also lit up the scoreboard.

Jon Laniyo and Chris Mizer combined for 19 points for the Rollers, but received just nine points from the rest of their teammates.

Meanwhile, the U25 games will continue this Friday with GVH taking on Hi-5 at 5:30pm and the Shottas squaring off against the R-Rebels at 6:30pm.

U17

IT&E Rollers A 52 – Ano 14, Lynx 12, Factor 8, J. Iglesias 6, Malonzo 6, Kwon 6.

MJC Ent. Sixers 27 – R. Villagomez 10, Ngeskebei 6, Flores 4, Iba 4.

Scoring by halves: 21-16, 52-27.

U25

First Game

R-Rebels 45 – Lisua 16, Ogumoro 10, E. Camacho 6, Litulumar 6, Nawaz 5, Chan 2.

Peacemakers 30 - Jung 9, J. Camacho 8, Lu. Reyes 6, La. Reyes 4, Lizama 3.

Scoring by halves: 19-19, 45-30.

Second Game

Saints 39 – Brennan 11, B. Iglesias 7, Lu. Reyes 6, Eubanks 4, Namelo 4, LJ Reyes 3, Basa 2, Cruz 2,

Rollers 28 – Laniyo 10, Mizer 9, J. Iglesias 3, P. Camaco 2, Kapwich 2, Teregeyo 2.

Scoring by halves: 19-17, 39-28.

TAMMY

From Page 28

50m freestyle, Tammy submitted 31.87 seconds to eclipse the 33.63 seconds Jellian Majors of Saipan Swim Club set on May 8, 2005.

"Tsunami Saipan swimmers now hold all the records in the girls 9 to 10 age group after Miku broke Majors' time. We've done the same in the boys U8 division early this year," Tsunami Saipan head coach Hiro Kimura said.

Aside from her two record times posted in a local meet two weeks ago, Tammy owns nine more CNMI age group marks. She holds the records in the 100m freestyle (1:13.80/May 25, 2012), 200m freestyle (2:34.86/April 13, 2012), 400m freestyle (5:43.69/Dec. 3, 2011), 800m freestyle (11:49.95/Jan. 21, 2012), 100m backstroke (1:21.49/April 14, 2012), 200m backstroke (2:57.03 (May 25, 2012), 50m butterfly (35.61 seconds/May 26, 2012(, 100m butterfly (1:20.69/May 26, 2012), and the 200m individual medley (2:53.17/April 14, 2012).

Tammy's teammate, Angel Tan, who is now competing in the 11 to 12 age group, has the three other records in the girls 9 to 10 division. Tan's record in the 50m breaststroke reads 41.86 seconds (Feb. 20, 2010). Her two other marks—the 100m breaststroke (1:31.27) and 200m breaststroke (3:16.71)—were also made on Feb. 20, 2010.

Meanwhile, Tsunami Saipan broke one more record during the July 14 meet, however Northern Marianas Swimming Federation did not consider Yeop Lee's time in the 50m backstroke due to residency issues, according to Kimura.

Lee completed the 50m backstroke in 33.48 seconds, surpassing the 34.44 seconds Joshua Taitano logged on May 7, 1994. However, Lee's time was not entered in the CNMI records books, as he is now a resident of Shanghai, China and only returns to Saipan every summer to train with Tsunami Saipan for two months.

Lee also joined the 50m freestyle race on his return to Saipan and timed in at 29.97 seconds. The complete results of Tsunami Saipan's meet this month will be published in Saipan Tribune's Thursday edition.

YOUR BALLS

From Page 28

Mike Pangelinan, before SaiPal assumed control, 5-3, with two outs in the second inning off six hits.

A double by Leo Blas added another run for SaiPal in the third inning before it turned into a 7-5 favor after four frames.

Warriors' Fred Pangelinan bashed a two-RBI single in the top portion, while SaiPal answered with an RBI base rip from Jayson Hayes in the bottom frame.

Warrior's Henry Rabauliman cranked a solo shot in the fifth inning to bring his team within a run and a costly error by SaiPal out on the field in the last inning of regulation gave the Warriors a second chance bonus frame. The Warriors' Blas Magofna scored off a wild throw from the shortstop.

The Warriors held SaiPal scoreless in the bottom side and worked around three runs in the top of the eighth inning primarily off some more errors. However, SaiPal made up for its defensive shortcomings in the bottom of the inning.

SaiPal loaded the bases right away and scored three runs off errors and an RBI base rip from Lefty Shiro before Eli Ilo stepped in soon after and belted the walk off single, scoring Gloyd Martin.

Talu Fahn 20, G-Ballers 19

A three-run homer from Talu Fahn's Eric Cabrera tied the gamed at 9-all in the third inning.

Talu Fahn fell behind in the early innings and was one-upped again in the top of the fifth after four G-Ballers worked around four runs off four hits, including a leadoff homerun from Asap Ogumoro and an RBI base smash from Ray Borja. The other run came off a fielder's choice.

The G-Ballers then moved ahead, 16-9, in the top of the sixth inning off five hits and some costly errors, but Talu Fahn pulled off a dramatic comeback in the last two frames.

Talu Fahn posted seven runs in the bottom portion off nine hits with Manny Ada, Cabrera, Floyd Dela Cruz, and Justin Mizutani bagging RBI singles. Eldred Santos capped the rally with a two-RBI base knock and Talu Fahn held its rival scoreless in the top half of the last inning of regulation before staking the win with six at bats into the final stand.

Stanley Aldan cracked an RBI base poke and Bill Aguon made a sacrifice fly before Ada delivered the walkoff single for Talu Fahn's win.

2 SAIPAN

From Page 28

fight team Spike 22.

The current bantamweight champion is the Philippine's Crisanto "The Slugger" Pitpitunge (4-1) of Lakay MMA, who knocked out former title belt holder Justin "The Shocker" Cruz (18-5) also of Spike 22 earlier this month in PXC 31 held in the Philippines.

Rangamar appeared in PXC 13: Back From The Dead in November 2007 and lost to Spike 22's Joe Taimanglo (16-4) via a rear-naked choke submission in the second round of what was the second official professional bout of his career. He then came up short again about two years later in PXC 17: Fearless, bowing to Japan's Yasuhiro Motomura (3-4) of Abe Ani Combat Club via triangle submission in the opening round.

Rangamar's opponent, Aguon, earned a unanimous decision over Josh Alvarez back in July 2010.

The local warriors learned about their opportunities earlier this month. Nuique has been training for the past three months and assures his supporters he is well and ready for the challenge.

"I know that I'm facing a good opponent, but I'm confident and really excited about the opportunity," said Nuique during a training session at the Trench Tech gym last Monday.

"Mark has worked really hard in regards to cutting weight. We even ran him through the pit a couple days ago and he did very well," Trench Tech's Cuki Alvarez said

The pit drill is done with a fighter, who is already tired, grinding through five consecutive full out sparring rounds against a fresh opponent during each round.

Alvarez also believed "The Hedgehog" will be Nuique's toughest opponent to date.

As for Rangamar, he has been training independently for over a month and joined Trench Tech's training camp last Monday to sharpen his skills before being put to the test.

Rangamar's record only tells a fraction of his tale as he has upheld a fearless reputation over the years, stepping to many talented opponents even as a 5'4" featherweight (145-lbs) at times.

In fact, Rangamar has already been pitted against both Cruz and Josh Alvarez in 2009 on Saipan, but never had his hand risen.

He lost to Cruz in Trench Tech's Rites of Passage 7: Fist of Fury via technical knock out due to strikes in the second round in May of 2009 and then fell to Josh Alvarez via straight arm-bar submission late in the first round of Trench Warz 11: Deception held in December.

Notably, both Rangamar and Aguon are looking to bounce back form a pair of recent defeats. Fight records were researched on Sherdog.com; Rangamar has two amateur wins in addition to his three pro victories.

Cuki Alvarez will be joining the Saipan fighters to Guam, while his son, Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez (7-1) will also be there, helping out as a cornerman.

FUTSAL

From Page 28

Padilla scored the lone goal for Baked Girls.

In the second women's game, Xerox drew goals from four different players to slip past Wild Bill's. Manami Todokoro, Temary Gramlich, and Patricia Coleman broke into the scoreboard in the first half, while Xerox's only goal in the second half was courtesy of Natalie Hill.

Wild Bill's only earned one goal in the first half with Goldie Aque finding the back of the net and the team fell short of forcing a draw despite getting two goals from Pratoom Stoffer in the second half.

With Xerox beating Wild Bill's, the former took the solo lead in the six-team field. Xerox improved to a 5-1-1 win-draw-loss record, ahead of Shirley's (4-1-1) and Wild Bill's (3-2-1). Rounding out the standings are Baked Girls (2-1-3), IT&E Awesome (1-0-4), and Mellow Yellow (0-1-5).

Xerox is also on top of the goals scored race with its 38, followed by Shirley's (26), Wild Bill's (17), Baked Girls (14), Mellow Yellow (10), and IT&E Awesome (7).

Meanwhile, Godfather's won the lone game played last Saturday, routing Shirley's, 20-8.

Steve McKagan, who returned from a stint with the CNMI Men's Team in the EAFF qualifier, made his presence felt in the league, sizzling for 10 goals. Peter Houk added four, Ropati Tonuu chipped in three, and David Duenas contributed a pair in Godfather's lopsided victory.

Taro Goto led Shirley's with his four goals, while Jack Phan and Ariel Jinang tallied three and one, respectively.

With the easy win, Godfather's improved to a 4-0-1 slate and kept pace with the league-leading Wild Bill's (4-0-0). Shirley's Coffee Shop dropped to a 1-0-3 card. IT&E (1-0-2) and Go Green (0-0-4) complete the field.

Besides the men's and women's divisions, this season's futsal league also features games in the boys U18 and U14. Astig Futsal leads the U18 group with its perfect 3-0-0 card, while Astig Futsal and IT&E are tied in the U14, drawing their first two matches in the league.

Hyatt Run For A Cause

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Participants in the half marathon event of last Saturday's Hyatt Run For A Cause head out to the course.

The second wave of runners in the 10K race leave the starting line at Micro Beach.

The 10K race winners pose with organizers.

The half marathon winners pose with their medals and prizes.

Mamiko Oshima-Berger smiles as she is about to cut the tape at the finish line.

Hyatt Regency Saipan general manager Nick Nishikawa is a few steps away from the 10K finish line.

Jack Hardy, right, and Adam Hardwicke near the finish line.

Mother and son, Kathy and Keoni Ruszala and Jun Lee are the last ones to head out to the 10K course.

10K winner Daniel Ramirez (in red shirt) leads runners out to the course.

TSL SPORTS COMPLEX

Activity Schedule for July 25, 2012

2012 Youth Badminton Summer Clinic
4th Session
8:00 AM to 10:00 AM: 7 to 10 years old
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM: 11 to 18 years old

Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium

2012 Summer Soccer Camp
4th Session
8:00 AM to 9:30 AM: U10 • **10:00 AM to 11:30 AM:** U8

SAIPAN SOCCER SCHOOL

2012 Summer Futsal League

5:30 PM:	U14 Boys' Division	Astig vs. IT&E
6:30 PM:	U18 Boys' Division	Astig vs. Thundercats
7:30 PM:	Men's Division	Wild Bill's vs. Go Green Team
8:30 PM:	Women's Division	Baked Girls vs. Xerox

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Tammy continues to crush swim records

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Tsunami Saipan Swimming Center and Miku Tammy now own the CNMI record book in the girls 9 to 10 age group.

Tsunami Saipan had its claim over 14 marks in the girls 9 to 10 division after Tammy reset two more records during a short meet the club hosted on July 14 at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

The 10-year-old swimmer clocked in at 37.58 seconds in the 50m backstroke, resetting her own record and CNMI age group mark of 39.46 seconds logged on Feb. 18, 2002. Then in the

See TAMMY on Page 26

Tsunami Saipan's Miku Tammy competes in the 50m backstroke race during a short meet last July 14 at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.
ROSELYN B. MONROYO

2 Saipan fighters in PXC 32

BY WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Trench Tech Purebred's Mark "The Dark" Nuique and Derek "El-Peligro" Rangamar of Marianas Elite will be competing in Pacific Xtreme Combat 32 this Saturday night at the University of Guam Fieldhouse in Mangilao.

Nuique is undefeated in eight fights, but this will be his first taste of PXC's level of competition. He will be paired against Counter Shot MMA's Josh "The Hedgehog" Alvarez (10-5) in a bantamweight bout set at 135-lbs.

This weekend marks Rangamar's (3-11) third PXC appearance and despite his not so impressive win-loss record, he could move a step closer to a possible title shot if he can beat current bantamweight contender Kyle Aguon (2-3) of

See 2 SAIPAN on Page 26

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
Trench Tech's Mark "The Dark" Nuique, left and Marianas Elite brawler Derek "El-Peligro" Rangamar take a break from training last Monday at the Trench Tech Gym in Susupe.

Futsal league resumes, 3 teams win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The 2012 Saipan Soccer School Summer Futsal League returned to action at the TSL Sports Complex in Gualo Rai last Saturday with three teams adding wins to their credit.

The summer league resumed with two matches in the women's division and one game in the men's group. The competition took a weeklong break to give way to the EAFF Asian Cup 2013 Preliminary Competition Round 1 at the Leo Palace in Guam.

In the first women's division tiff, Shirley's Coffee Shop edged Baked Girls, 2-1, while Xerox also had a close win over Wild Bill's in the second match.

Geraldine Castillo nailed the pair of goals for Shirley's Coffee Shop, making them all in the second half, while Anne

See FUTSAL on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROY)
The Shirley's Coffee Shop goalie picks up the ball during their first meeting against Baked Girls in the SSS women's futsal league early this month at the TSL Sports Complex in Gualo Rai.

Your Balls barges into Chamolinian league finals

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Your Balls advanced to the men's division championship game of Chamolinian Softball Association's 2nd Budweiser Softball League with a twice-to-beat advantage after routing Gagu Eyez, 15-5, during their upper bracket semifinals match last Monday night at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

In other results, SaiPal survived the Warriors after eight innings in the lower bracket elimination pairing, 11-10, to earn the right to face the winner of last night's knockout match between the defending champion Man Amigos and Natibu for the second and last finals berth.

In addition, Talu Fahn barely made it past G-Ballers, 20-19, in the Bottom Six single- elimination tournament pairing. More results, including the ladies' division, will be released tomorrow.

WALTER CEPEDASUTHERLAND
Kyle Kaipat, seen here swinging during last season's game, helped Your Balls beat Gagu Eyez in the semis of the Chamolinian league last Monday night at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

Your Balls 15, Gagu Eyez 5

Your Balls established a 5-0 lead in the first inning off a three-run homer from Kyle Kaipat, an error, and a sacrifice fly from JP Lizama.

Gagu Eyez then pulled within a run in the second inning, 4-5, thanks to an early error and a three-run blast from Swain Cangco. However, Your Balls tightened up on defense through the middle innings and stamped a dozen runs in the bottom of the third inning to get a chokehold on the match after only five innings.

Kyle Kaipat belted a two-run shot to start the uprising, followed by a pair of RBI singles from Norman Angui and Lizama, while the other runs came off an error, a sacrifice fly, and two-run double by Marvin Kaipat.

Your Balls then added three more runs to close the fourth off a solo homer from Audie Maratita and a pair of sacrifice flies from Angui and Lizama.

Gagu Eyez could not avoid the early decision, as it was stuffed to just one run in the fifth inning.

SaiPal 11, Warriors 1

The Warriors moved around three early runs of a sacrifice fly from Darren Pua, a triple from Chris Pangelinan, and a homerun from

See YOUR BALLS on Page 26